

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES

DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

**PB-9944**

U S APPLICATION NO (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR

To be assigned **10 / 049358**

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.  
PCT/US00/22150

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE  
**10 August 2000**

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED  
**10 August 1999**

TITLE OF INVENTION

## TAQ DNA Polymerases Having an Amino Acid Substitution at E681 and Homologs Thereof Exhibiting Improved Salt Tolerance

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

**Maria Davis, John Nelson, Shiv Kumar, Patrick Finn, Satyam Nampalli, and Parke Flick**

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.
4. ☒ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))
  - a. ☒ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
  - a. ☐ is attached hereto.
  - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).
11. ☒ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☒ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).

**Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:**

13. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☐ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
17. ☐ A substitute specification.
18. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
19. ☒ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825
20. ☐ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
21. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
22. ☒ Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail
23. ☒ Other items or information.

**additional copy of this transmittal letter for charging purposes**  
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10049358 .051702  
10/049358  
Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 MAY 2002  
PB-9944

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of:	M. Davis, et al.	Group Art Unit:	To be assigned
Serial Number:	10/049,358	Examiner:	To be assigned
Filing Date:	To be assigned		
Title:	TAQ DNA Polymerases Having an Amino Acid Substitution at E681 and Homologs Thereof Exhibiting Improved Salt Tolerance		

**Submission of Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

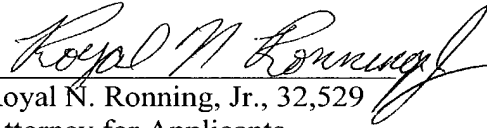
In connection with the prosecution of the captioned application, and in response to the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) having a mailing date of April 23, 2002, Applicants submit the following items:

- 1) An initial computer readable form (CFR) copy of the sequence listing and an initial paper copy of the sequence listing, both generated on an IBM computer using PatentIn, Version 2.1 Software.
- 2) Required statements:
  - A. Applicants aver that the sequence listings do not include any new matter which goes beyond the content of the application as filed.

- B. Applicants aver that that sequence listings contained on the diskette are identical to those contained on the paper copy.

A copy of the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) having a mailing date of April 23, 2002, is enclosed herewith as required. Please direct any issues to Applicant's counsel at the telephone number provided below.

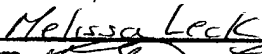
Respectfully submitted,

  
Royal N. Ronning, Jr., 32,529  
Attorney for Applicants

Amersham Biosciences Corp.  
800 Centennial Avenue  
P. O. Box 1327  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08855-1327

Tel: (732) 457-8423  
Fax: (732) 457-8463

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 8, 2002

  
Signature Melissa Leck  
Date May 8, 2002

PB-9944

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: M. Davis, et al. Group Art Unit: To be assigned  
Serial Number: To be assigned Examiner: To be assigned  
Filing Date: To be assigned  
Title: *TAQ* DNA Polymerases Having an Amino Acid Substitution at E681 and Homologs Thereof Exhibiting Improved Salt Tolerance

**SUBMISSION OF NUCLEOTIDE AND/OR AMINO ACID SEQUENCE DISCLOSURES**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box New Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

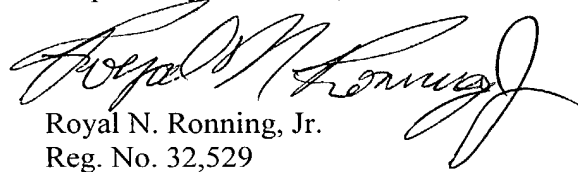
In connection with the prosecution of the captioned application, Applicants submit the following items:

- 1) An initial computer readable form (CFR) copy of the sequence listing and an initial paper copy of the sequence listing, both generated on an IBM computer using PatentIn, Version 2.1 Software.
- 2) Required statements:
  - A. Applicants aver that the sequence listings do not include any new matter which goes beyond the content of the application as filed.
  - B. Applicants aver that that sequence listings contained on the diskette are identical to those contained on the paper copy.

Please direct any issues to Applicant's counsel at the telephone number provided below.

Amersham Biosciences Corp.  
P.O. Box 1327  
800 Centennial Avenue  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08855-1327  
(732)457-8423 (voice)  
(732)457-8463 (facsimile)

Respectfully submitted,

  
Royal N. Ronning, Jr.  
Reg. No. 32,529

10049358 10/049358

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 FEB 2002

PB-9944

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: M. Davis, et al. Group Art Unit: To be assigned  
Serial Number: To be assigned Examiner: To be assigned  
Filing Date: To be assigned  
Title: *TAQ* DNA Polymerases Having an Amino Acid Substitution at  
E681 and Homologs Thereof Exhibiting Improved Salt Tolerance

**First Preliminary Amendment**

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the prosecution of the captioned application, which is a filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and claims priority to international application number PCT/US00/22150 filed August 10, 2000. This application also claims the benefit of United States provisional application number 60/148,012 having a filing date of August 10, 1999.

**In the Claims**

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

15. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

16. (once amended) A DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).

Please amend claim 17 as follows:

17. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).

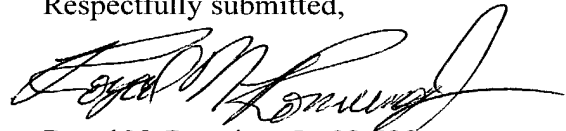
**Remarks**

Claims 1-28 are pending in the instant application. Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, and 17 to more fully conform with U.S. practice. A version of the claims marked up to show the amendments, as well as a clean version of the claims encompassing the amendments, is attached hereto.

Applicants respectfully assert that all amendments are fairly based on the specification, and respectfully request their entry.

Applicants believe that the claims, as amended, are in allowable form, and earnestly solicit the allowance of claims 1-28.

Respectfully submitted,



Royal N. Ronning, Jr. 32,529  
Attorney for Applicants

Amersham Biosciences  
800 Centennial Avenue  
P. O. Box 1327  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08855-1327

Tel: (732) 457-8423  
Fax: (732) 457-8463



**Claims (marked up version showing amendments)**

1. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).
2. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).
3. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).
15. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).
16. (once amended) A DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).
17. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).

**Claims (clean version encompassing amendments)**

1. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).
2. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).
3. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2 (SEQ ID No. 2).
4. A recombinant DNA vector that comprises the nucleic acid of Claim 3.
5. A recombinant host cell transformed with the vector of Claim 4.
6. The recombinant host cell of Claim 5 that is *E. coli*.
7. A method of sequencing DNA comprising the step of generating chain terminated fragments from the DNA template to be sequenced with the DNA polymerase of Claim 1 in the presence of at least one chain terminating agent and one or more

nucleotide triphosphates, and determining the sequence of said DNA from the sizes of said fragments.

8. A method according to Claim 7, wherein the chain terminating agent comprises a labeled nucleic acid terminator having a net positive or a net negative charge.
9. A method for synthesizing a fluorescently labeled polynucleotide, said method comprising the step of mixing a DNA polymerase according to Claim 1 with a primed template.
10. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a chain termination sequencing reaction.
11. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a polymerase chain reaction.
12. A kit for fluorescently labeling a polynucleotide, the kit comprising a DNA polymerase according to Claim 1 and a fluorescently labeled nucleotide.
13. A kit according to Claim 12, wherein the fluorescently labeled nucleotide comprises a nucleic acid terminator having a net negative or a net positive charge.
14. A kit for sequencing DNA comprising the DNA polymerase of Claim 1.

15. (once amended) A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).
16. (once amended) A DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).
17. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3 (SEQ ID No. 3).
18. A recombinant DNA vector that comprises the nucleic acid of Claim 17.
19. A recombinant host cell transformed with the vector of Claim 18.
20. The recombinant host cell of Claim 18 that is *E. coli*.
21. A method of sequencing DNA comprising the step of generating chain terminated fragments from the DNA template to be sequenced with the DNA polymerase of Claim 16 in the presence of at least one chain terminating agent and one or more nucleotide triphosphates, and determining the sequence of said DNA from the sizes of said fragments.

22. A method according to Claim 21, wherein the chain terminating agent comprises a labeled nucleic acid terminator having a net positive or a net negative charge.
23. A method for synthesizing a fluorescently labeled polynucleotide, said method comprising the step of mixing a DNA polymerase according to Claim 16 with a primed template.
24. A method according to Claim 23, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a chain termination sequencing reaction.
25. A method according to claim 23, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a polymerase chain reaction.
26. A kit for fluorescently labeling a polynucleotide, the kit comprising a DNA polymerase according to Claim 16 and a fluorescently labeled nucleotide.
27. A kit according to Claim 26, wherein the fluorescently labeled nucleotide comprises a nucleic acid terminator having a net negative or a net positive charge.
28. A kit for sequencing DNA comprising the DNA polymerase of Claim 16.

TAQ DNA POLYMERASES HAVING AN AMINO ACID SUBSTITUTION AT E681  
AND HOMOLOGS THEREOF EXHIBITING IMPROVED SALT TOLERANCE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority under 35 USC § 119(e) of US provisional application serial number 60/150,167, filed on August 21, 1999, and US provisional application serial number 60/154,739, filed on September 17, 1999, the entire disclosures of each of which are incorporated in their entirety herein.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The instant disclosure pertains to thermostable DNA polymerases which exhibit improved robustness and efficiency. In particular, the instant DNA polymerase has been shown to result in a substantial improvement of signal uniformity compared to Taq  $\Delta 271$ /F272M/F667Y DNA polymerase when used in DNA sequencing reactions.

Background

DNA polymerases are enzymes which are useful in many recombinant DNA techniques such as nucleic acid amplification by the polymerase chain reaction ("PCR"), self-sustained sequence replication ("3SR"), and high temperature DNA sequencing. Thermostable polymerases are particularly useful. Because heat does not destroy the polymerase activity, there is no need to add additional polymerase after every denaturation step.

Naturally occurring DNA polymerases preferentially incorporate unlabeled nucleotides over corresponding labeled nucleotides into polynucleotides. This ability of DNA polymerases to discriminate against fluorescently labeled nucleotides had an undesirable effect on many molecular biology procedures that require the enzymatic addition of labeled nucleotides, e.g., labeled dideoxy terminator sequencing. Ambiguous sequencing determinations often result from the disproportionate number of labeled and unlabeled dideoxy terminators and nucleotides. On an electropherogram obtained from a capillary

electrophoresis sequencing unit, this phenomena shows up as uneven peaks. Large signals due to a larger amount of incorporated labeled ddNTP (shown as wide peaks) can obscure smaller signals and lead to ambiguous sequence determinations. Additionally, many of the enzymes presently available are sensitive to high salt environments.

Thus, a need continues to exist for an improved DNA polymerase having improved discrimination properties (and thus resulting in improved signal uniformity) and increased tolerance to high salt conditions. These and other concerns are addressed in greater detail below.

### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The instant disclosure teaches a purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2 or 3. The instant disclosure also teaches an isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence set forth in Figure 2 or 3, as well as a recombinant DNA vector that comprises the nucleic acid, and a recombinant host cell transformed with the vector. The instant disclosure also teaches a method of sequencing DNA comprising the step of generating chain terminated fragments from the DNA template to be sequenced with the DNA polymerase in the presence of at least one chain terminating agent having a net negative or a net positive charge and one or more nucleotide triphosphates, and determining the sequence of said DNA from the sizes of said fragments. The instant disclosure also teaches a kit for sequencing DNA comprising the DNA polymerase and nucleic acid terminator having a net negative or a net positive charge.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

One objective of the instant disclosure is to increase the uniformity of dye-terminator incorporation in fluorescent dye DNA sequencing. One important DNA polymerase is Taq DNA polymerase isolated from the thermophilic bacterium *Thermus aquaticus*, the amino acid sequence for which is shown at Figure 1. The full length enzyme was truncated to eliminate 5' to 3' exonuclease activity and to provide a polypeptide more stable to proteolysis and heat treatment. The truncated enzyme is known as Taq  $\Delta$ 271/ F272M/F667Y DNA polymerase, which is commercially available from Amersham Pharmacia Biotech as Thermo Sequenase<sup>®</sup> DNA polymerase. Position 1 (amino acid Met) in Taq  $\Delta$ 271/ F272M/F667Y

DNA polymerase corresponds to position 272 in full length Taq polymerase. It should be noted that the numbering used in the instant disclosure is that for Taq  $\Delta 271$ / F272M/F667Y polymerase, not for Taq polymerase.

Single amino acid substitutions were introduced into Taq  $\Delta 271$ / F272M/F667Y polymerase. These substitutions are designated as E344Q, I367V, F367Y, E416K and E410R. Each of the substituted polymerases was expressed, purified, and analyzed for uniformity of dye-terminator incorporation in fluorescent sequencing studies, as assayed by signal uniformity. The E410R substitution was found to result in a substantial improvement of signal uniformity compared to Taq  $\Delta 271$ / F272M/F667Y DNA polymerase.

The DNA polymerases disclosed herein are especially suitable for use in sequencing reactions which employ terminators having a net positive or a net negative charge. Surprisingly, the instant DNA polymerases have been shown to modulate the incorporation of such terminators during the sequencing reaction. See for example Figure 14. Furthermore, such nucleic acid terminators, which along with the corresponding nucleic acid terminator decomposition products, migrate on separation media at different rates than the sequencing reaction products and which result in improved sequence data. These nucleic acid terminators also allow for the direct loading of nucleic acid sequencing reactions onto separating media. To achieve this goal, negatively or positively charged moieties are attached to the terminator molecule. The unreacted or degraded terminators containing such charged moieties move faster (negatively charged) or in the reverse direction (positively charged) than the DNA sequencing products.

For example, the structures depicted in Figure 15 illustrate potential sites at which a charged moiety may be attached to a terminator. Referring to Figure 15, the Base may comprise A, T, G, C or analogs such as 7-deazapurine, inosine, universal bases. The Sugar may comprise furanose, hexose, mono-di-triphosphates, morpholine, didehydro, dideoxyribose, deoxyribose. The Linker may comprise 1-100 atoms, preferably 2-50 atoms consisting of C, H, N, O, S and halogens. The Mobility modifier may comprise any charged species which alters electrophoretic mobility of structure and degradation products, e.g.,  $\alpha$ -sulfo- $\beta$ -alanine, cysteic acid, sulfonic acids, carboxylates, phosphates, phosphodiesteres, phosphonates, amines, quaternised amines, and phosphonium moieties. The Mobility modifier may comprise a number of these units covalently linked together. The Label may comprise any signal moiety such as radioisotope, electrochemical tag, fluorescent tags,



energy transfer (ET) labels, mass spectrometry tags, Raman tags, hapten, chemilluminescent group, enzyme, chromophore, and two or more labels. The label may also be charged, e.g. Cy5.5, bis-sulfonated carboxyfluorescein, or a dye attached to a charged moiety, e.g., carboxyfluorescein attached to cysteic acid or similar charged species. Methods for making these and other compounds are disclosed in U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/098,469 filed on August 31, 1998, and U.S. Application No. 90/018,695 filed on February 4, 1998, and PCT/GB98/00978 filed on April 2, 1998 and published on October 8, 1998, the disclosures of each application are incorporated in their entirety by reference herein.

The following examples are for illustration purposes only and should not be used in any way to limit the appended claims.

## EXAMPLES

### EXAMPLE 1

The construction, expression and purification of Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  polymerase is described below. The other substitutions named above were constructed, expressed and purified in a similar manner.

#### Construction

Primers BamHIFOR (5' ccg ctt ggg cag agg atc cgc cgg gcc ttc atc gcc gag ga) and NheIREV (5' tcg taa ggg atg gct agc cgc tgg gag agg cgg tgg gcc gac) were used in a standard PCR reaction to amplify the region between the BamHI and NheI restriction sites in pREFY2pref (cloned Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y$  DNA polymerase). Primer BamHIFOR contains a BamHI restriction site which corresponds to the same unique site in pREFY2pref, and primer NheIREV contains a NheI restriction site which corresponds to the same unique site in pREFY2pref. In addition, primer NheIREV was designed to change the codon at position 410 from gag (encoding amino acid E, glutamic acid) to cgg (amino acid R, arginine). The PCR product was digested with the appropriate enzymes, and isolated by agarose gel electrophoresis. The large fragment resulting from the BamHI/NheI digestion of pREFY2pref was also gel purified, and ligated to the PCR fragment above. Following transformation into *E. coli*, plasmid DNA was isolated and subsequently sequenced to confirm the presence of the E410R substitution. The amino acid sequence for Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  DNA polymerase is shown at Figure 2.

### Expression & Purification of the Taq $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$ Polymerase

Vector pRE2 which carries the lambda  $p_L$  promoter was used with an *E. coli* strain which has the heat labile repressor protein cI857 to express the Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  polymerase. This combination permits cultivation at 30°C followed by expression of a plasmid-borne protein at elevated temperatures such as 42°C. Liquid cultures were typically grown at 30°C to an OD<sub>600</sub> of ~ 1.0, and then transferred to 42°C for ~ 2.5 hours. Bacterial cells were harvested by centrifugation, resuspended in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.5, 1 mM EDTA, 0.1% Tween-20, 0.1% Triton X-100, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and 16 mM (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and then heated at 80°C for 20 minutes to precipitate *E. coli* proteins. The heat lysate was clarified by centrifugation, and supplemented with 300 mM NaCl, and applied to a DE52 anion exchange column (commercially available from Whatman). The flow-through was diluted in Buffer A (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA, 10% glycerol, 0.1% Triton X-100 and 0.1% Tween-20) to reduce the NaCl concentration to 100 mM, and applied to a Heparin Sepharose column (commercially available from Pharmacia Inc.). The column was developed by linear gradient from 100 to 700 mM NaCl in Buffer A. The enzyme eluted at ~250mM NaCl. Fractions containing polymerase activity were pooled, concentrated on a Centriprep-50 apparatus (commercially available from Amicon) and dialyzed extensively against a final buffer containing 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.5, 50% glycerol, 0.1 mM EDTA, 0.5% Tween-20, 0.5% Triton X-100, 100 mM KCl and 1 mM DTT. The purity of the polymerase preparation was confirmed by SDS-PAGE.

### Enzyme Characterization

#### 1) Salt tolerance:

The Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  DNA polymerase activity has been examined under a KCl titration experiment by using both activated salmon sperm DNA and primed M13 DNA as substrates. In both assays, Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  showed a decreased polymerase activity while increasing KCl concentration from 0 to 200 mM. However, the enzyme displays a much slower activity decrease compared to TS. Figure 4 plots the data from KCl titration of Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y$  and Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  using activated salmon sperm DNA as substrates. The 50% KCl inhibition for Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  polymerase activity with activated salmon sperm or primed

M13 DNA are 120 mM and 100 mM, respectively compared to TS, which has a 50% KCl inhibition of 35 mM. The polymerase assay buffer contains: 25 mM TAPS (pH 9.3), 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM 2-mercaptoethanol and 200 mM each dNTP plus 0.05 Ci/mmol [ $\alpha$ -<sup>33</sup>P]-dATP. A comparison of salt tolerance data for Taq  $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y and substitutions thereof is presented below in Table I.

TABLE I

<u>Enzyme, substitution</u>	<u>Salt Tolerance</u>
Taq $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y	35 mM
Taq $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R	135 mM
Taq $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/E410M	125 mM
Taq $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/E410W	125 mM
Taq $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/E410H	110 mM

2) Thermostability at 95°C:

The thermostability of Taq  $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R has been assayed as follows. First, the 95°C heating step was performed in a buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 9.5, 5mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 50 $\mu$ M each dNTP and 100ng M13 single strand DNA. Then 10 units of enzyme were mixed with the above solution and a time course performed by taking aliquots (20  $\mu$ l each) and placing on ice. Next, dilutions were made in a buffer containing 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 1 mM 2-mercaptoethanol, 0.5% Tween-20, 0.5% Nonidet P-40. In the third step, the heated and diluted samples have been assayed for survivor polymerase activity under a standard polymerase assay condition described in section (1) but including 50 mM KCl. Figure 5 showed the thermostability assay of comparing Taq  $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R with Amplitaq. The 50% inhibition time at 95°C for Taq  $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R and Amplitaq are 25 min and 8min, respectively.

3) Processivity assay:

The processivity of Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  has been examined in an enzyme dilution method, which insures that the polymerase activity is assayed for a single enzyme binding event. The assay buffer contains 15 mM Tris-HCl (pH 9.5), 3.5 mM  $MgCl_2$ , 100 mM each dNTP and  $1\mu g$   $P^{33}$  labeled primed M13. The primer extension experiment has been performed at  $65^\circ C$  for 90 seconds. The samples were analyzed on a 8% polyacrylamide-7 M urea sequencing gel. Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y/E410R$  has an increased processivity of about 30 nucleotides per polymerase binding event. This is about a 7 to 8 fold increases compared to Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y$  (4 nt/binding event).

4) Uniform termination events:

The new E to R amino acid modification discovered also results in increased uniformity in termination events during sequencing reactions containing net positive, negative, or neutrally charged dideoxynucleotide terminators. This results in an increased uniformity in electropherogram band intensity and an increase in the number of bases which can be basedcalled per sequence. For example, as shown in Figure 6, the average deviation of band intensity using Thermosequenase Version II is about a 30% deviation. However, as shown in Figure 7, a typical result using an E to R polymerase is about a 22% deviation. This improvement is significant. Portions of Figures 6 and 7 are magnified in Figures 8 through 10 for comparison purposes.

5) Ability to sequence difficult areas:

The new E to R amino acid modification discovered also results in an improved ability to sequence DNA's which contain "difficult to sequence" areas. Certain specific DNA sequences are extremely likely to cause sequencing DNA polymerases problems, resulting in a reduced quality of the sequence obtained (see Figure 11). Surprisingly, enzymes containing the E to R modification are much more likely to yield higher quality sequence data from DNA containing these difficult to sequence areas (see Figure 12).

**EXAMPLE 2: TAQ D18A/E681R/F667Y POLYMERASE**

We also constructed using standard techniques described above a full length version of Taq polymerase with the following substitutions : D18A/E681R/F667Y. In this enzyme, the D18A substitution removes the 5' to 3' exonuclease activity, rather than the deletion of

amino acids as in the Taq  $\Delta 271$ /F272M/F667Y DNA polymerase polypeptide. The E681R substitution is the position equivalent to E410R in Taq  $\Delta 271$ /F272M/F667Y DNA polymerase, and F667Y is the equivalent position to F396Y in Taq  $\Delta 271$ /F272M/F667Y DNA polymerase. This enzyme also has properties desirable for sequencing with dye terminators. The amino acid sequence of Taq D18A/E681R/F667Y DNA polymerase is shown at Figure 3.

Uniformity of positive terminator reactions is improved considerably with the substitutions at E681 as shown by the data in Table II below.

TABLE II

<u>Enzyme, substitution</u>	<u>Uniformity (r.m.s.)</u>
TSI, E681	0.52
TSI, E681R	0.39
TSI, E681H	0.37
TSI, E681I	0.4
TSI, E681M	0.31
TSI, E681W	0.34

Root mean square ("r.m.s.") is a measure of uniformity of a four color sequence reaction. This experiment used positive terminators (5 lysines in the linker) and standard sequencing reaction conditions. The improvement of 0.52 to below 0.45 shows a significant increase in uniformity for the sequencing reaction.

Figure 13 is a side-by-side comparison of electropherograms obtained from four color sequencing reactions conducted using D18A/F667Y DNA polymerases having various E681 substitutions as described at the left of each electropherogram. As shown in Figure 13, D18A/E681R/F667Y shows the most uniform peak heights and thus the most improvement in uniformity.

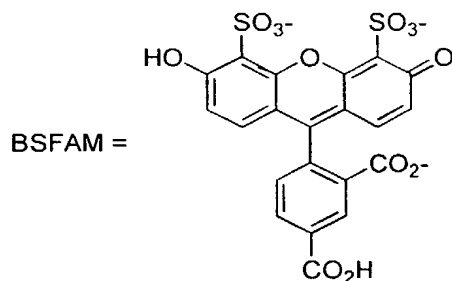
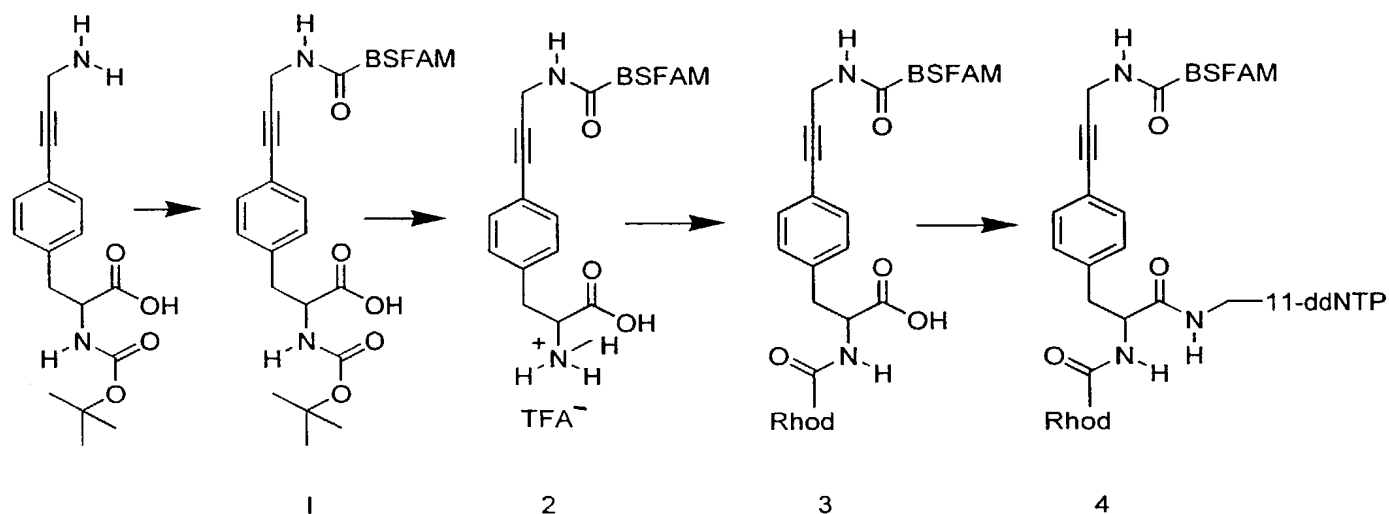
Figure 14 shows the relative reactivity compared to unlabelled ddNTPs evidenced in four color sequencing reactions which employed D18A/F667Y and various E681 substitutions therEof with various charged terminators.

## Nucleic Acid Terminators

### 1. An example of charge modified reporters as applied to direct load

#### 1.1 Chemistry

The following scheme was used to synthesize labeled ddNTPs with a charged reporter moiety. The linker was synthesized according to methods disclosed in U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/098,469 filed on August 31, 1998, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.



Rhod = 5-R110, 5-ROX, 5-TAMRA, 5-REG



lyophilization (100mg, 65%). UV/vis (1M triethylammonium bicarbonate pH 8.8) 495nm (24670), 465nm (shoulder, 9634), 312nm (6708).

4-(propargylamido-4',5'-bissulfonatefluorescein)-phenylalanine- $\alpha$ -ammonium trifluoroacetate (2)

4-(propargylamido-4',5'-bissulfonatefluorescein)-N- $\alpha$ -*t*-butoxycarbonylphenylalanine (100mg, 0.12mmol) was treated with trifluoroacetic acid (10ml) for 15min. then evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The residue was coevaporated with toluene (3x10ml) then the product precipitated by the addition of Et<sub>2</sub>O (50ml). The solid formed was collected by filtration, washed with cold Et<sub>2</sub>O (3x50ml) then dried under high vacuum (100mg, 99%). Rf (tlc, iPrOH:NH<sub>4</sub>OH:H<sub>2</sub>O (6:3:1)=0.

General methodology for the attachment of rhodamine dyes to 2 (3)

4-(propargylamido-4',5'-bissulfonatefluorescein)-phenylalanine- $\alpha$ -ammonium trifluoroacetate **2** (0.1mmol) was dissolved in DMSO (1ml) then diisopropylethylamine (0.26ml, 15 eq.) and rhodamine-NHS active ester (1.5 eq.) added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16h, then evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The R110 analog was treated with triethylammonium bicarbonate solution (0.1M, 50ml) for 16h to remove the trifluoroacetimido protecting groups then the product purified by RP-HPLC using identical conditions to **1** unless stated. Retention times (BSFAM/R110 = 31min, BSFAM/R110 = 55min 0-100% B over 90 min, 100 ml/min., BSFAM/REG 54min 0-100%B over 90 min., 100ml/min, BSFAM/TAMRA = 52min 0-100% B over 90 min). All absorption spectra show the presence of both dyes.

General Methodology for Attachment of 3 to alkylamino-2',3'-dideoxynucleotide triphosphates (4).

The double dye cassette (1mmol) was dissolved in DMF (5ml) then disuccinimidyl carbonate (4eq.) and DMAP (4eq.) were added at -60°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at -30°C for 15 min. then a solution of aminoalkyl-ddNTP (0.67eq., Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>/NaHCO<sub>3</sub> pH 8.5) added.





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N-(N-5-carboxamidofluorescein- $\alpha$ -sulfo- $\beta$ -alanine)amido- $\alpha$ -sulfo- $\beta$ -alanine (6)

N-5-carboxamidofluorescein- $\alpha$ -sulfo- $\beta$ -alanine (5, 50mg, 0.095mmol) was dissolved in DMF (3ml) then diisopropylethylamine (0.25ml, 15eq.) and TSTU (42mg, 1.5eq.) added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1h. then  $\alpha$ -sulfo- $\beta$ -alanine (24mg, 1.5eq.) added. Stirring was continued for 3h. then the reaction evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The product was isolated by ion exchange chromatography (mono-Q column, A=0.1M TEAB, 40%MeCN v/v, B=1.0M TEAB, 40%MeCN v/v, 0-50%B over 22min., 50-75%B from 22-50min. 75-100%B from 50-70 min., 4ml/min., retention time = 75-80min.) then C18 RP HPLC (A=0.1M TEAB B=0.1M TEAB/MeCN 50% v/v, 0-100%B over 90 min., 100ml/min, retention time = 33min.).  $R_f$ (PrOH6:ammonia3:water1 v/v/v) 0.34.

General Methodology for Attachment of modified dyes to alkylamino-2',3'-dideoxynucleotide triphosphates (7,8).

The modified dye (1mmol) was dissolved in DMF (5ml) then disuccinimidyl carbonate (4eq.) and DMAP (4eq.) were added at  $-60^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The reaction mixture was stirred at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 15 min. then a solution of aminoalkyl-ddNTP (0.67eq.,  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3/\text{NaHCO}_3$  pH 8.5) added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 1h. then applied directly to a  $\text{SiO}_2$  gel column. The product was eluted with iPrOH: $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$ : $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:5:1 v:v:v) then evaporated to dryness *in vacuo* before subsequent purification by ion exchange chromatography then C18 reverse phase HPLC as for 1.

## 2.4 Results

Each labeled ddNTP was dissolved in sequencing buffer and subjected to several rounds of thermocycling. The products were separated on a sequencing gel and the electropherograms shown in Figure 17. Interpretation of the electropherogram provided the conclusion an overall 3- charge (i.e., structure 8) removed the colored by-products from the area of the electropherogram where true sequencing data would be obtained.

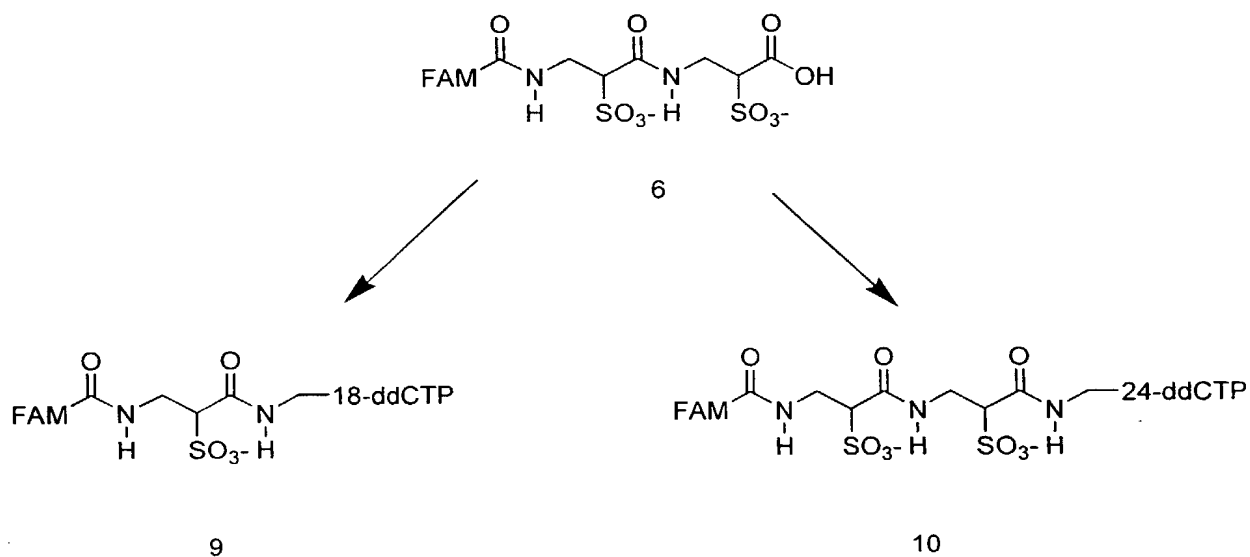
Figure 17 illustrates how the net negative charge of the dye labeled dideoxynucleotides affects their (and thermal breakdown products thereof) migration rate. As the net negative charge of the terminator increases, the migration rates of the various peaks seen (each of the peaks seen are either dye labeled dideoxynucleotides or thermal breakdown products thereof) increases (Figure 17). At an overall 3- charge (2- from linker, 1-from fluorescein) peaks are absent from the region of the electropherogram where true sequence data would normally be obtained.

### 3. Negatively charged extended linker arms as applied to direct load

#### 3.1 Background

In order to improve the efficiency of incorporation of the modified terminator, a labeled terminator with a 3- charge on the linker arm was synthesized, this time containing an extended linker arm of 18 and 24 atoms.

#### 3.2 Chemistry



### 3.3 Experimental

Compound 6, was attached to 18-ddCTP and 24-ddCTP using the standard protocol for attachment of labels to ddNTPs outlined in section 2.3. The method of purification was the same for 9 and 10.

Retention time of 9: Mono-Q™ ion exchange (47min)

Retention time of 10: Mono-Q™ ion exchange (42min)

C18 RP-HPLC (15min)

### 3.4 Sequencing Results

From the sequencing experiments it was clear that increasing the linker arm length improved incorporation of the terminator. This information, coupled to the presence of the 3- charge in the dye-linker structure led us to investigate rhodamine dyes with a 3- charged linker. This would permit four color sequencing.

As shown in Figure 18, it is possible to directly load a sequencing reaction with no clean-up procedure. Figure 18 shows no peaks resulting from unincorporated dye-labeled terminator in the sequence, thus demonstrating the utility of negatively charged terminators with respect to direct load sequencing.

### 3.5 Rhodamine Labeled Terminators Containing a 3- Linker Arm

The following chemistry was attempted to synthesize a set of four differently labeled terminators:

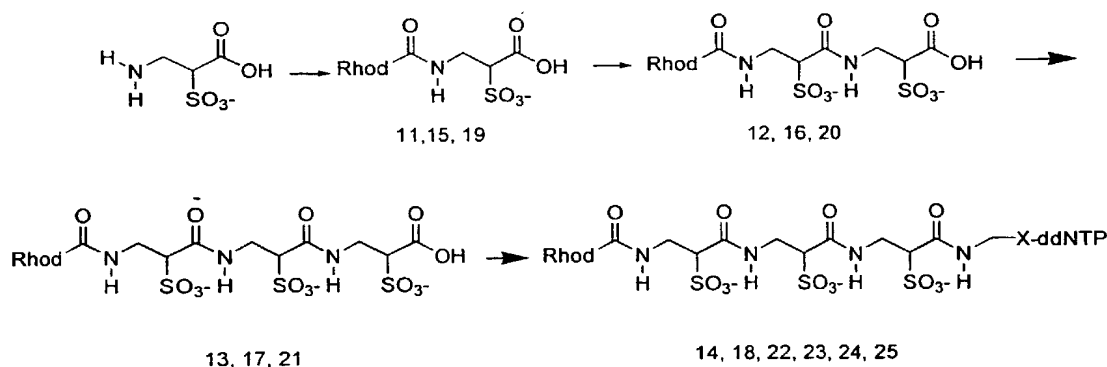


TABLE III

Compound Nos.	Rhod	X	N
11-14	REG	24	U
15-18	TAMRA	24	A
19-22	ROX	24	G
23	TAMRA	12	A
24	ROX	12	G
25	ROX	18	G

Rhod = rhodamine label, X = length of linker arm, N=base

### 3.6 Experimental

Compounds 11, 15, 19 were synthesized according to the method outlined for 5.

Compounds 12, 13, 16, 17, 17, 21 according to the method outlined for 6.

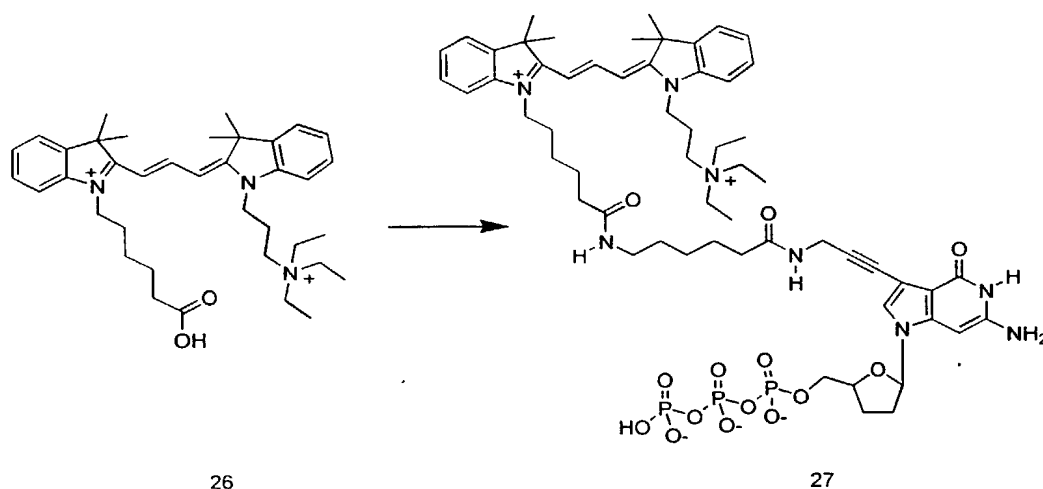
Compounds 14, 18, 22-25 according to the general methodology for attachment of modified dyes to alkylamino-2',3'-dideoxynucleotide triphosphates (7,8).

### 3.7 Results and Discussion

The labeled triphosphates 14, 18, 22 were used in a direct load sequencing experiment.

Compound 14 in a direct load experiment showed no breakdown products and with TSII and





### 5.2 Experimental

Compound 26 (10mg, 0.0134mmol) was dissolved in DMF (1ml) then diisopropylethylamine (23μl, 10eq.) added followed by PyBOP (14mg, 2.0eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15min. then a solution of 11-ddGTP (0.0083mmol, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>-NaHCO<sub>3</sub> pH 8.5) added in one portion. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3h. then applied directly to a silica gel column. The product was eluted with iPrOH:NH<sub>4</sub>OH:H<sub>2</sub>O (6:3:1 v/v/v) then purified by ion exchange chromatography (as for 6) followed by C18 RP-HPLC (1.75μmol yield, 21%).

### 5.3 Sequencing Results

The electropherogram shown in Figure 19 was obtained when 27 was used in a sequencing reaction. The +2 charged terminator was used in a sequencing reaction and loaded directly on to a slab gel. The same experiment was repeated, however the reaction mixture was treated with phosphatase prior to loading on a gel to remove phosphates from the unincorporated dye-labeled dideoxynucleotides remaining in the reaction mixture. This leaves all terminator derived products with an overall positive charge causing them to migrate in the opposite direction as the sequence products during electrophoresis. It is clear from the





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$\alpha$ -( $\alpha'$ -N-(5-carboxamidorhodamine6G)- $\epsilon'$ -N,N,N-trimethyllysine)- $\epsilon$ -N,N,N-trimethyllysine (29)

$\alpha$ -N-(5-carboxamidorhodamine6G)- $\epsilon$ -N,N,N-trimethyllysine 28 (100mg, 0.15mmol) was dissolved in DMF (5ml) then diisopropylethylamine (0.3ml, 15eq.) and TSTU (67mg, 1.5eq.) added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1h. then  $\epsilon$ -N,N,N-trimethyllysine (50mg, 1.5eq.) added. The solution was stirred for a further 3h. then the reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The product was isolated by C18 RP HPLC (A=0.1M TEAB, B=0.1MTEAB/50%MeCN, 0-100%B over 90 min., 100ml/min). Retention time = 60min.

TABLE IV

Abbreviations

<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Definition</u>
ddNTP	2'-3'-dideoxynucleoside triphosphate
ET	Energy Transfer
TSTU	2-Succinimido-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate
PyBOP	Benzotriazol-1-yl-oxy-tris-pyrrolidino-phosphonium hexafluorophosphate
DMF	N,N-dimethylformamide
RP HPLC	Reverse Phase High Performance Liquid Chromatography
Et <sub>2</sub> O	Diethyl ether
DMSO	Dimethyl sulfoxide
TEAB	Triethylammonium bicarbonate
MeCN	Acetonitrile
iPrOH	Isopropanol
NH <sub>4</sub> OH	Ammonium Hydroxide
BSFAM	4',5' Bis-sulfono-5-carboxyfluorescein
R110	Rhodamine 110
REG or R6G	Carboxyrhodamine6G
TAMRA	Tertamethylrhodamine
ROX	Carboxy-X-rhodamine
DMAP	4-dimethylaminopyridine
11-ddGTP	2',2'-dideoxyguanosine triphosphate with an 11 atom linker arm
NHS	N-hydroxysuccinimide

Although various embodiments of the instant invention are described in detail above, the instant invention is not limited to such specific examples. Various modifications will be readily apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art and fall within the spirit and scope of the following appended claims.

# CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2.
2. A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 2.
3. An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 2.
4. A recombinant DNA vector that comprises the nucleic acid of Claim 3.
5. A recombinant host cell transformed with the vector of Claim 4.
6. The recombinant host cell of Claim 5 that is *E. coli*.
7. A method of sequencing DNA comprising the step of generating chain terminated fragments from the DNA template to be sequenced with the DNA polymerase of Claim 1 in the presence of at least one chain terminating agent and one or more nucleotide triphosphates, and determining the sequence of said DNA from the sizes of said fragments.
8. A method according to Claim 7, wherein the chain terminating agent comprises a labeled nucleic acid terminator having a net positive or a net negative charge.
9. A method for synthesizing a fluorescently labeled polynucleotide, said method comprising the step of mixing a DNA polymerase according to Claim 1 with a primed template.
10. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a chain termination sequencing reaction.

11. A method according to Claim 9, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a polymerase chain reaction.
12. A kit for fluorescently labeling a polynucleotide, the kit comprising a DNA polymerase according to Claim 1 and a fluorescently labeled nucleotide.
13. A kit according to Claim 12, wherein the fluorescently labeled nucleotide comprises a nucleic acid terminator having a net negative or a net positive charge.
14. A kit for sequencing DNA comprising the DNA polymerase of Claim 1.
15. A purified recombinant thermostable DNA polymerase comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3.
16. A DNA polymerase comprising an amino acid substitution corresponding to the substitution E681R in the amino acid sequence listing of Figure 3.
17. An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a thermostable DNA polymerase, wherein said nucleic acid consists of the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 3.
18. A recombinant DNA vector that comprises the nucleic acid of Claim 17.
19. A recombinant host cell transformed with the vector of Claim 18.
20. The recombinant host cell of Claim 18 that is *E. coli*.
21. A method of sequencing DNA comprising the step of generating chain terminated fragments from the DNA template to be sequenced with the DNA polymerase of Claim 16 in the presence of at least one chain terminating agent and one or more nucleotide triphosphates, and determining the sequence of said DNA from the sizes of said fragments.
22. A method according to Claim 21, wherein the chain terminating agent comprises a labeled nucleic acid terminator having a net positive or a net negative charge.

23. A method for synthesizing a fluorescently labeled polynucleotide, said method comprising the step of mixing a DNA polymerase according to Claim 16 with a primed template.
24. A method according to Claim 23, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a chain termination sequencing reaction.
25. A method according to claim 23, wherein the primed template is a primed template in a polymerase chain reaction.
26. A kit for fluorescently labeling a polynucleotide, the kit comprising a DNA polymerase according to Claim 16 and a fluorescently labeled nucleotide.
27. A kit according to Claim 26, wherein the fluorescently labeled nucleotide comprises a nucleic acid terminator having a net negative or a net positive charge.
28. A kit for sequencing DNA comprising the DNA polymerase of Claim 16.

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60/154,739 17 September 1999 (17.09.1999) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AMER-  
SHAM PHARMACIA BIOTECH INC. [US/US]; 800  
Centennial Avenue, P.O. Box 1327, Piscataway, NJ 08855-  
1327 (US).

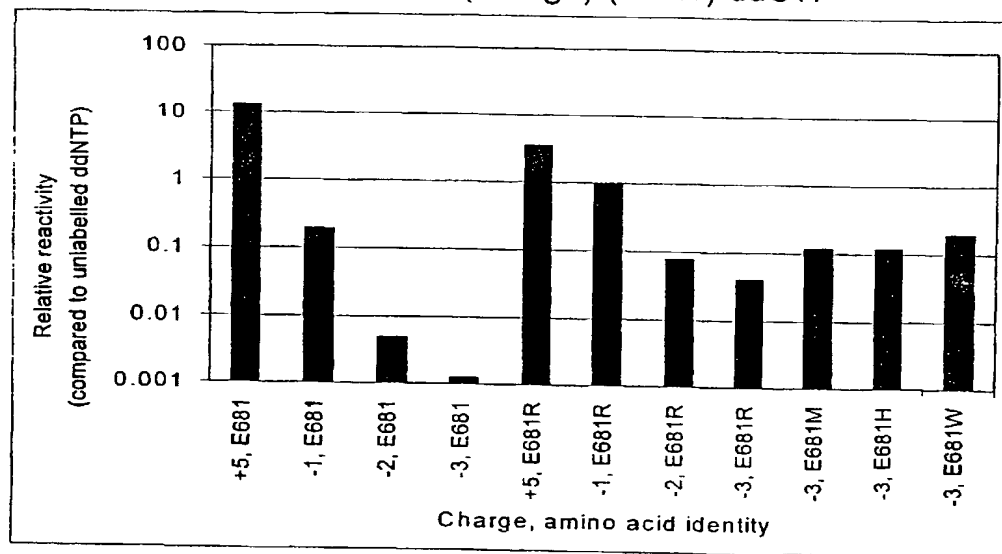
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DAVIS, Maria  
[US/US]; P.O. Box 1327, 800 Centennial Avenue, Piscat-  
away, NJ 08855-1327 (US). NELSON, John [US/US];  
P.O. Box 1327, 800 Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, NJ  
08855-1327 (US). KUMAR, Shiv [US/US]; P.O. Box  
1327, 800 Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1327  
(US). FINN, Patrick, J. [GB/US]; P.O. Box 1327, 800  
Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1327 (US).  
NAMPALLI, Satyaam [IN/US]; P.O. Box 1327, 800  
Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1327 (US).  
FLICKE, Parke [US/US]; P.O. Box 1327, 800 Centennial  
Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1327 (US).(74) Agent: MALIA, Victoria, M.; Amersham Pharmacia  
Biotech Inc., P.O. Box 1327, 800 Centennial Avenue,  
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TAQ DNA POLYMERASES HAVING AN AMINO ACID SUBSTITUTION AT E681 AND HOMOLOGS THEREOF  
EXHIBITING IMPROVED SALT TOLERANCE

fluorescein-(charge)-(linker)-ddCTP

(57) Abstract: Thermostable DNA polymerases having an E410R substitution which result in a substantial improvement of signal uniformity compared to Taq  $\Delta 271/F272M/F667Y$  DNA polymerase. The instant DNA polymerases possess improved salt tolerance and have been shown to modulate the incorporation of terminators having a net positive or a net negative charge during the sequencing reaction.

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Taq DNA polymerase:

5 MRGMLPLFEPKGRVLLVDGHHLAYRTFHALKGLTTSRGEPVQAVYGF  
AKSLLKALKEDGDAVIVVFDAKAPSFRHEAYGGYKAGRAPTPEDFPRQ  
LALIKELVDLLGLARLEVPGYEADDVLASLAKKAEKEGYEVRILTADK  
DLYQLLSDRIVLHPEGYLITPAWLWEKYGLRPDQWADYRALTGDES  
DNLPGVKGIGEKTARKLLEEWGSLEALLKNLDRLKPAIREKILAHMDD  
10 LKLSWDLAKVRTDLPLEVDFAKRREPDRERLRAFLERLEFGSLLHEFGL  
LESPKALEEAPWPPPEGAFVGVFLSRKEPMWADLLALAAARGGRVHR  
APEPYKALRDLKEARGLLAKDLSVLALREGLGLPPGDDPMLLAYLLDP  
SNTTPEGVARRYGGEWTEEAGERAAALSERLFANLWGRLEGEERLLWL  
YREVERPLSAVLAHMEATGVRLDVAYLRALSLEVAEEIARLEAEVFR  
15 AGHPFNLNSRDQLERVLFDLGLPAIGKTEKTGKRSTSAAVLEALREAH  
PIVEKILQYRELTKLKSTYIDPLPDLIHPRTGRLHTRFNQTATATGRLSSS  
DPNLQNIPVRTPLGQRIRRAFIAEEGWLLVALDYSQIELRVLAHLSGDE  
NLIRVFQEGRDIHTETASWMFGVPREAVDPLMRRAAKTINFGVLYGMS  
AHRLSQELAIPYEEAQAFIERFYQSFPKVRAWIEKTLEEGRRRGYVETLF  
20 GRRRYVPDLEARVKSVREAAERMAFNMPVQGTAADLMKCLAMVKLFP  
RLEEMGARMLLQVHDELVLEAPKERAEEAVARLAKEVMGVYPLAVPL  
EVEVGIGEDWLSAKE

**Fig. 1**



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Taq  $\Delta$ 271/F272M/F667Y/ **E681R** DNA polymerase:

5 MLERLEFGSLLHEFGLLESPKALEEAPWPPPEGAFVGVLSRKEPMWA  
DLLALAAARGGRVHRAPEPYKALRDLKEARGLLAKDLSVLALREGLG  
LPPGDDPMLLAYLLDPSNTTPEGVARRYGGEWTEEAGERAALSERLFA  
NLWGRLEGEERLLWL YREVERPLSAVLAHMEATGVRLDVAYLRALSL  
EVAEEIARLEAEVFRLAGHPFNLSRDQLERVLFDELGLPAIGKTEKTG  
10 KRSTSAAVLEALREAHPIVEKILQYRELTCLKSTYIDPLPDLIHPRTGRL  
HTRFNQTATATGRLSSSDPNLQNIPVRTPLGQRIRRAFIAEEGWLLVAL  
DYSQIELRVLAHLSGDENLIRVFQEGRDIHTETASWMFGVPREAVDPL  
MRRAAKTINYGVLYGMSAHRLSQRLAIPYEEAQAFIER YFQSFPKVRA  
WIEKTLEEGRRRGYVETLFGRRRYVPDLEARVKSVREAAERMAFNMP  
15 VQGTAADLMKCLAMVKLFPRLEEMGARMLLQVHDEL VLEAPKERA EA  
VARLAKEVMEGVYPLAVPLEVEVGIGEDWLSAKE

**Fig. 2**

**3/19**Taq D18A/E681R/F667Y DNA polymerase:

5 MRGMLPLFEPKGRVLLVAGHHLAYRTFHALKGLTTSRGEPVQAVYGF  
AKSLLKALKEDGDAVIVVFDKAPSRHEAYGGYKAGRPTPEDFPRQ  
LALIKELVDLLGLARLEVPGYEADDVLASLAKKAEKEGYEVRILTADK  
DLYQLLSDRIVLHPEGYLITPAWLWEKYGLRPDQWADYRALTGDES  
DNLPGVKGIGEKTARKLLEEWGSLEALLKNLDRKPAIREKILAHMDD  
10 LKLSWDLAKVRTDLPLEVDFAKRREPDRERLRAFLERLEFGSLLHEFGL  
LESPKALEEAPWPPPEGAFVGVLSRKEPMWADLLALAAARGGRVHR  
APEPYKALRDLKEARGLLAKDLSVLALREGLGLPPGDDPMLLAYLLDP  
SNTTPEGVARRYGGEWTEEAGERALSERLFANLWGRLEGEERLLWL  
YREVERPLSAVLAHMEATGVRLDVAYLRALSLEVAEEIARLEAEVFRL  
15 AGHPFNLNSRDQLERVLFDELGLPAIGKTEKTGKRSTSAAVLEALREAH  
PIVEKILQYRELTKLKSTYIDPLPDLIHPRTGRLHTRFNQTATATGRLSSS  
DPNLQNIPVRTPLGQRIRRAFIAEEGWLLVALDYSQIELRVLAHLSGDE  
NLIRVFQEGRDIHTETASWMFGVPREAVDPLMRRAAKTINYGVLYGMS  
AHRLSQRLAIPYEEAQAFIERYFQSFPKVRAWIEKTLEEGRRRGYVETL  
20 FGRRRYVPDLEARVKSVREAAERMAFNMPVQGTAADLMKLAMVKLF  
PRLEEMGARMMLQVHDELVLEAPKERAEEAVARLAKEVMEGVYPLAVP  
LEVEVGIGEDWLSAKE

**Fig. 3**

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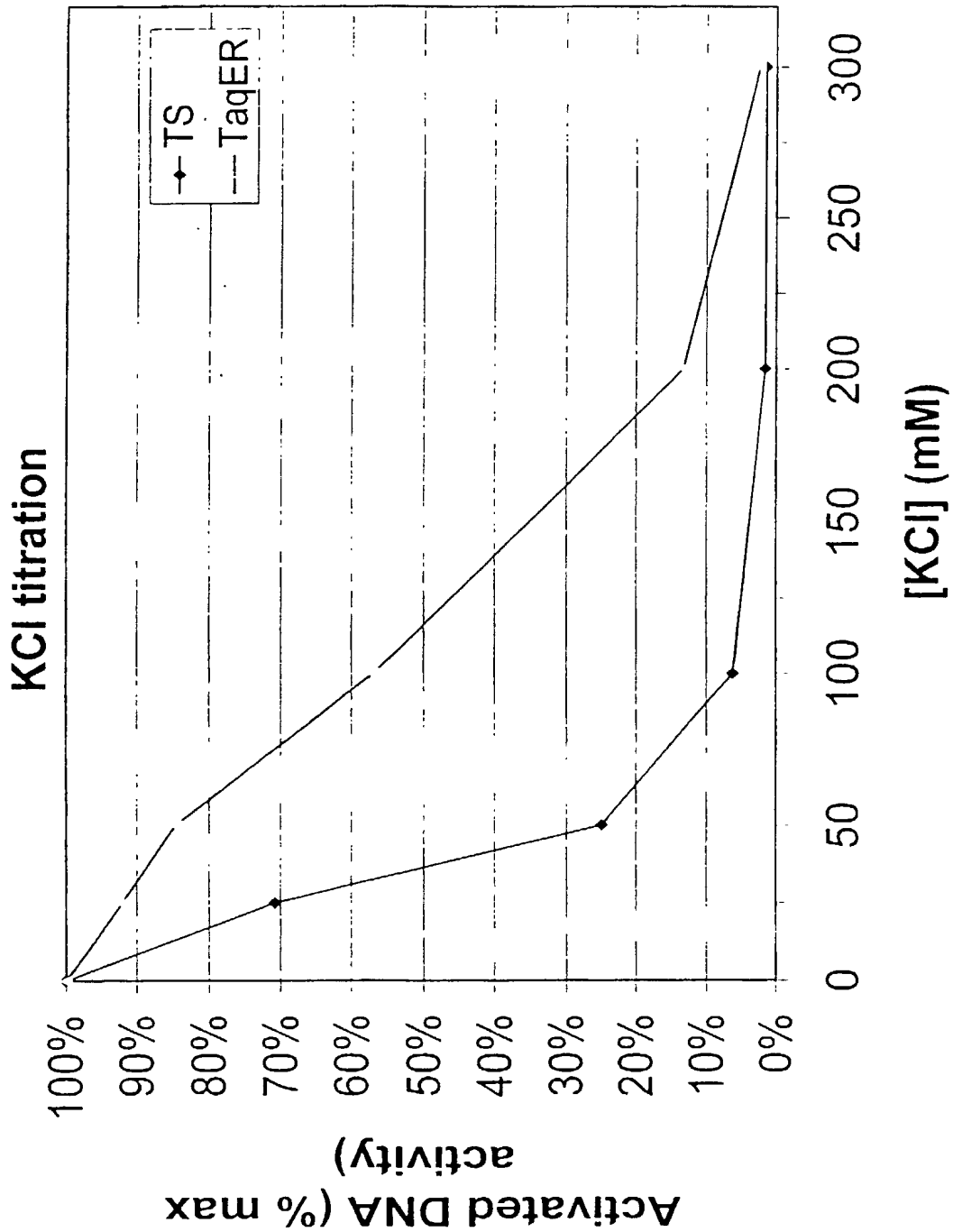
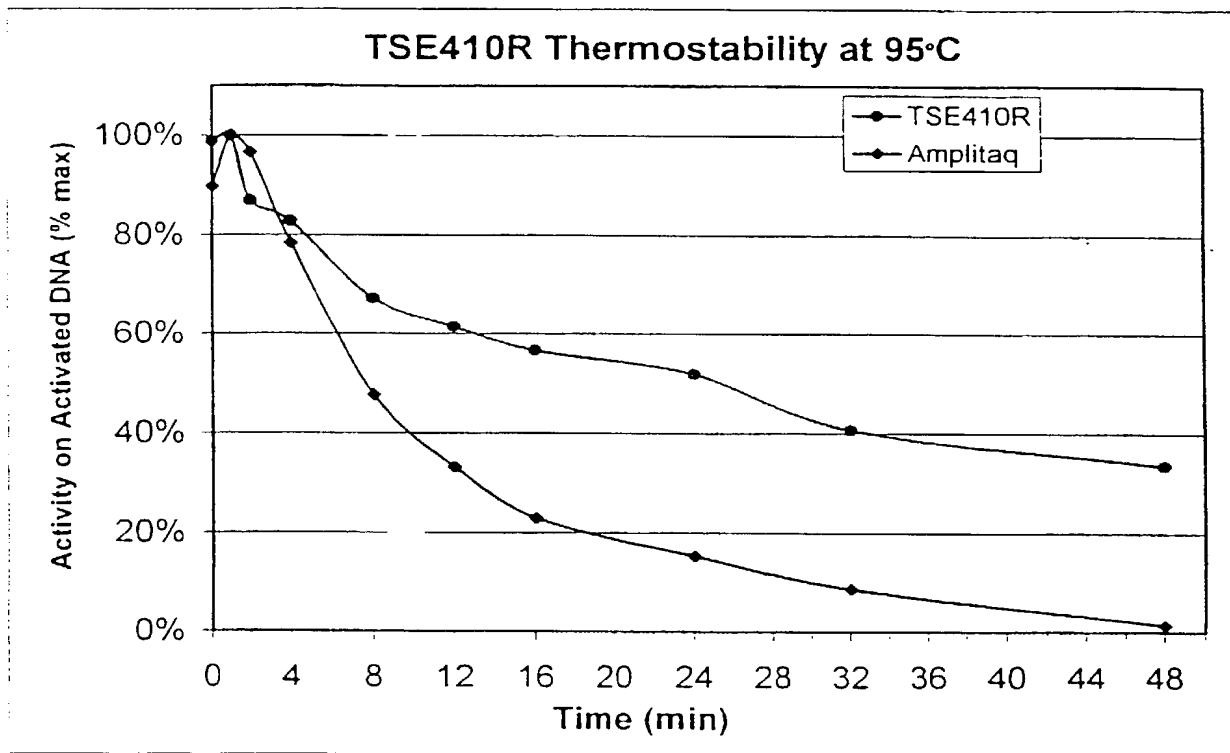


Fig. 4

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**Fig. 5**

uniformity, TSII

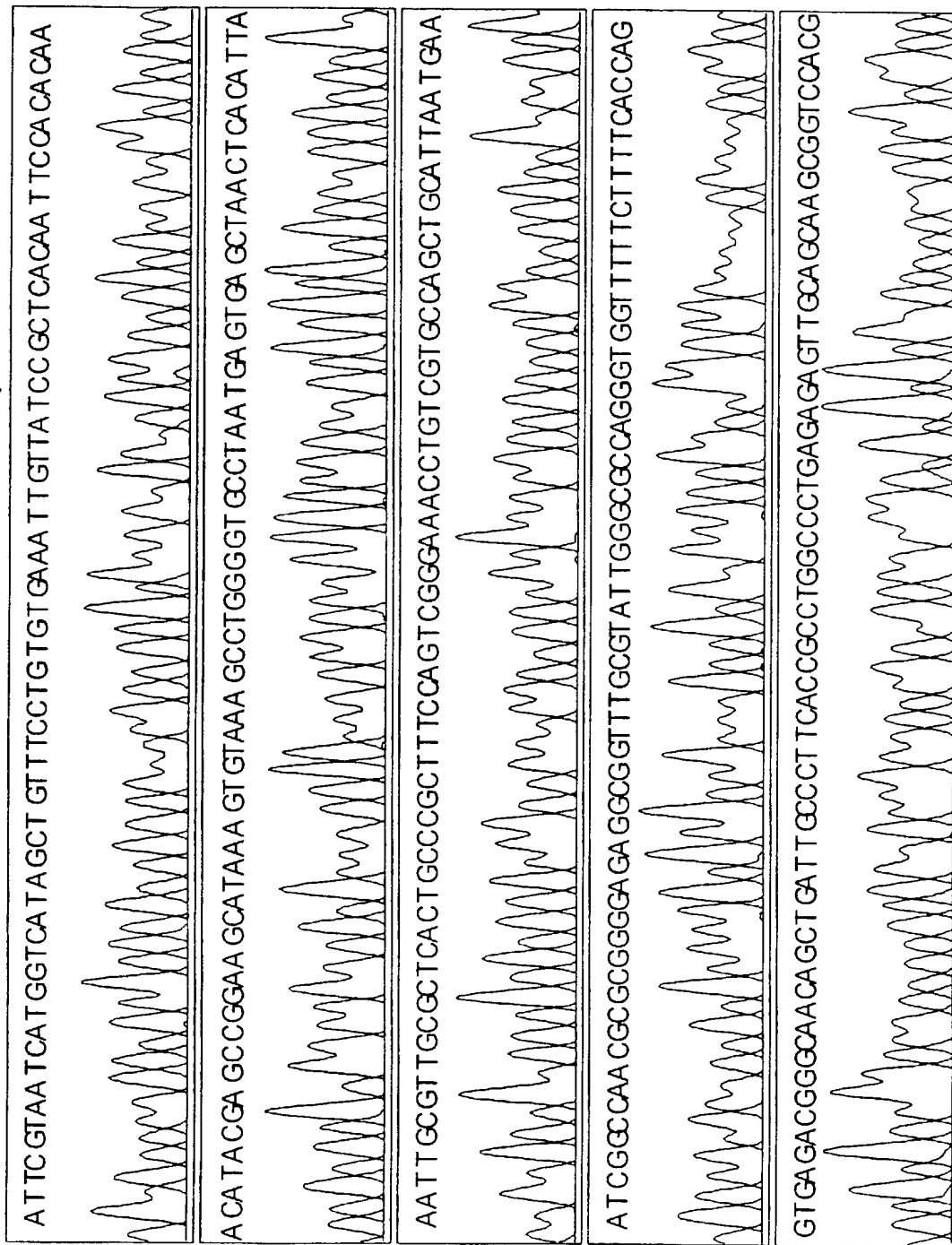


Fig. 6

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uniformity, TSII ER

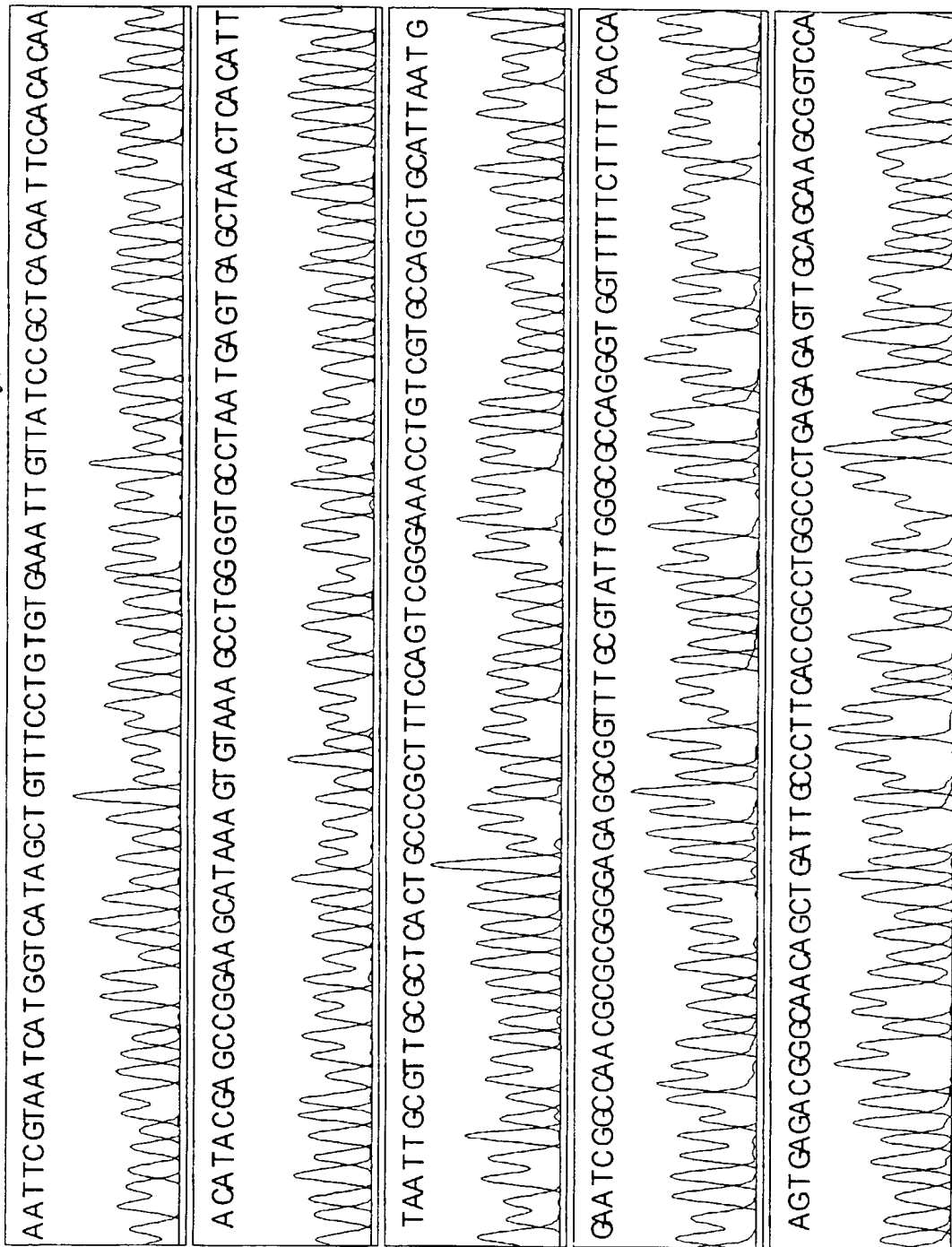


Fig. 7

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Difficult template, TSII

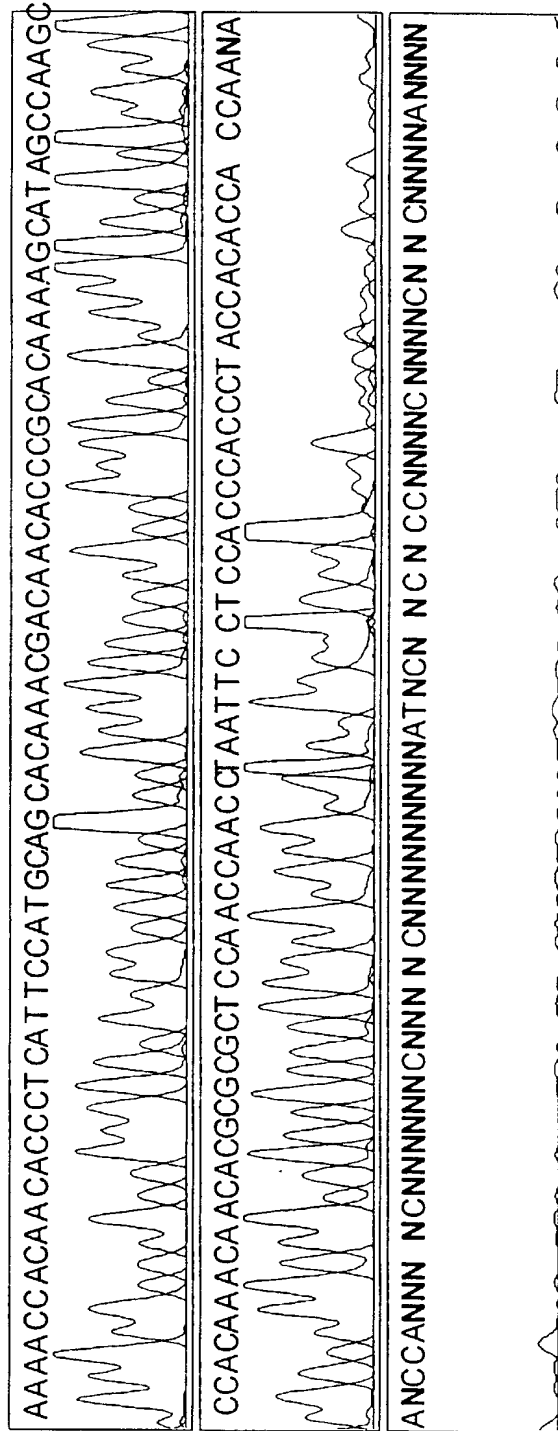


Fig. 8

Difficult template, TSH ER

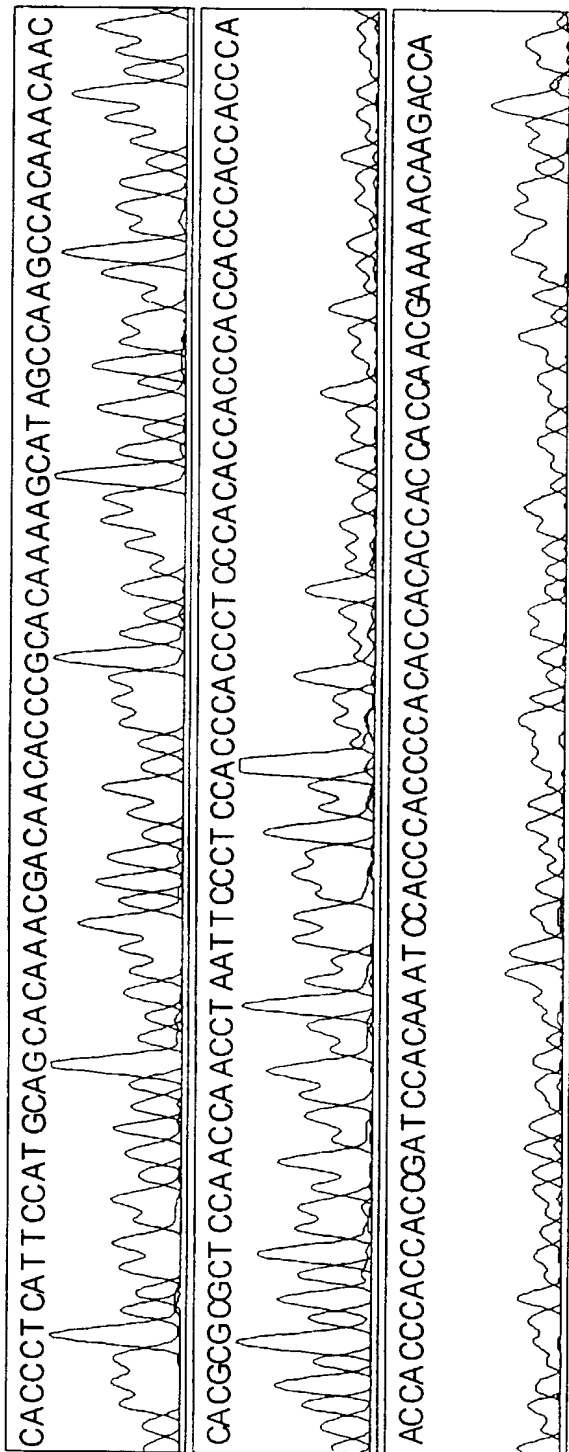


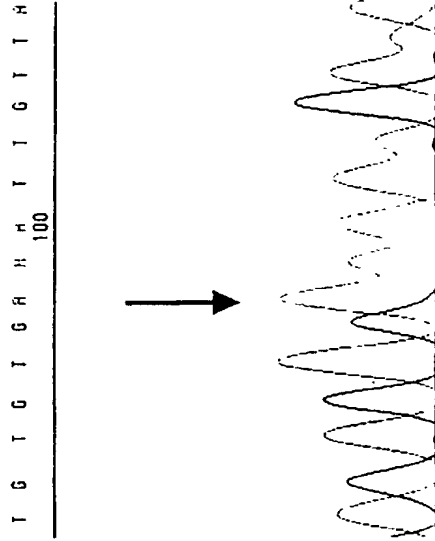
Fig. 9



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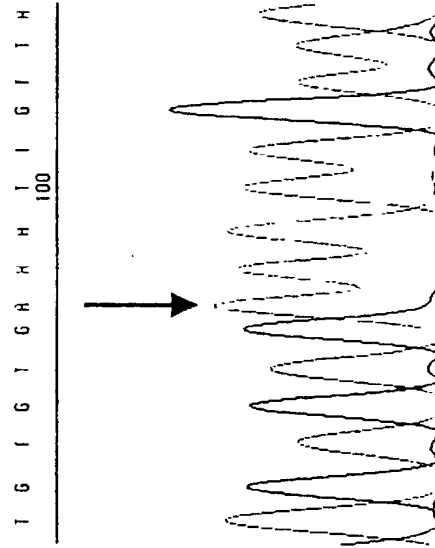
**Fig. 10a**

DNA sequence using TSI.  
Figure shows example of  
a strong \ relative to following  
\ 's.



**Fig. 10b**

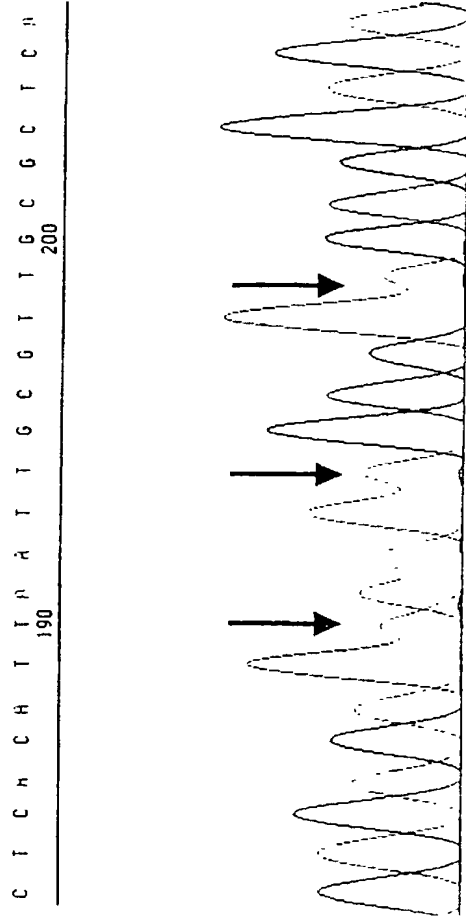
Same sequence using an E to R  
Polymerase. The strong \ relative  
to following \ 's is eliminated.



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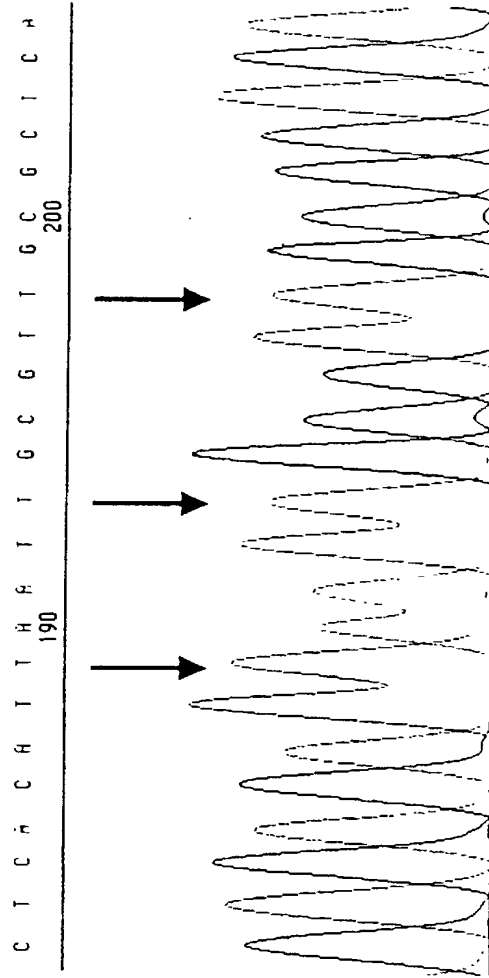
**Fig. 11a**

DNA sequence using TSP.  
Figure shows multiple  
examples of weak I's after  
preceding I's.



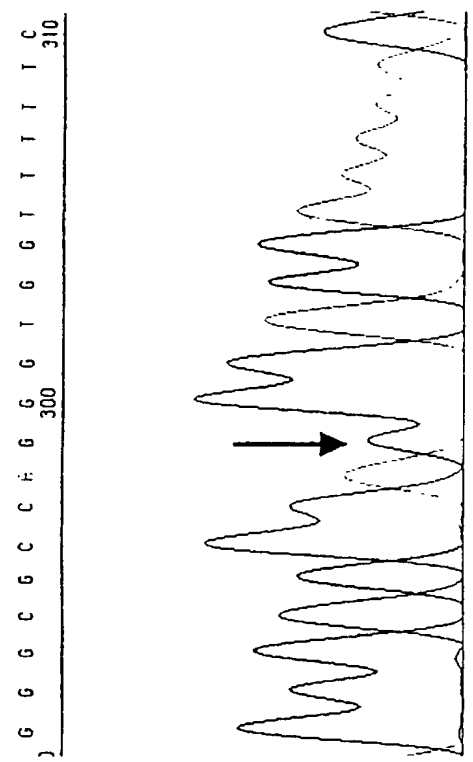
**Fig. 11b**

Same sequence using an E to R  
Polymerase. The weak I after a  
preceding I is eliminated.



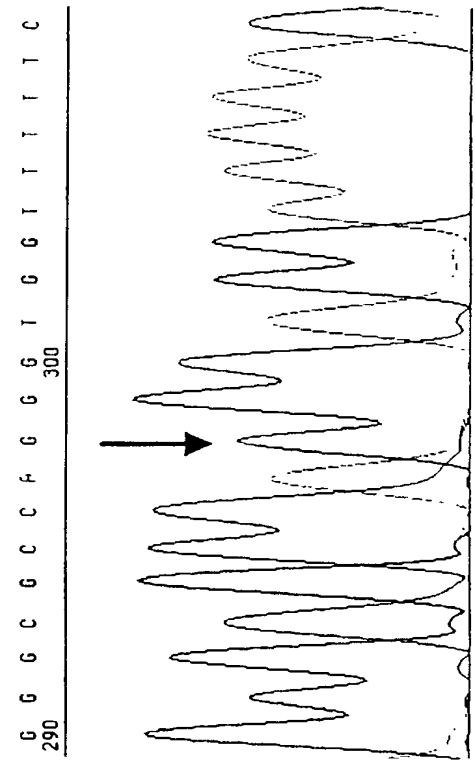
**Fig. 12a**

DNA sequence using TSII.  
Figure shows example of  
a weak G after preceding \.



**Fig. 12b**

Same sequence using an E to R  
Polymerase. The weak G after  
preceding \ is eliminated.



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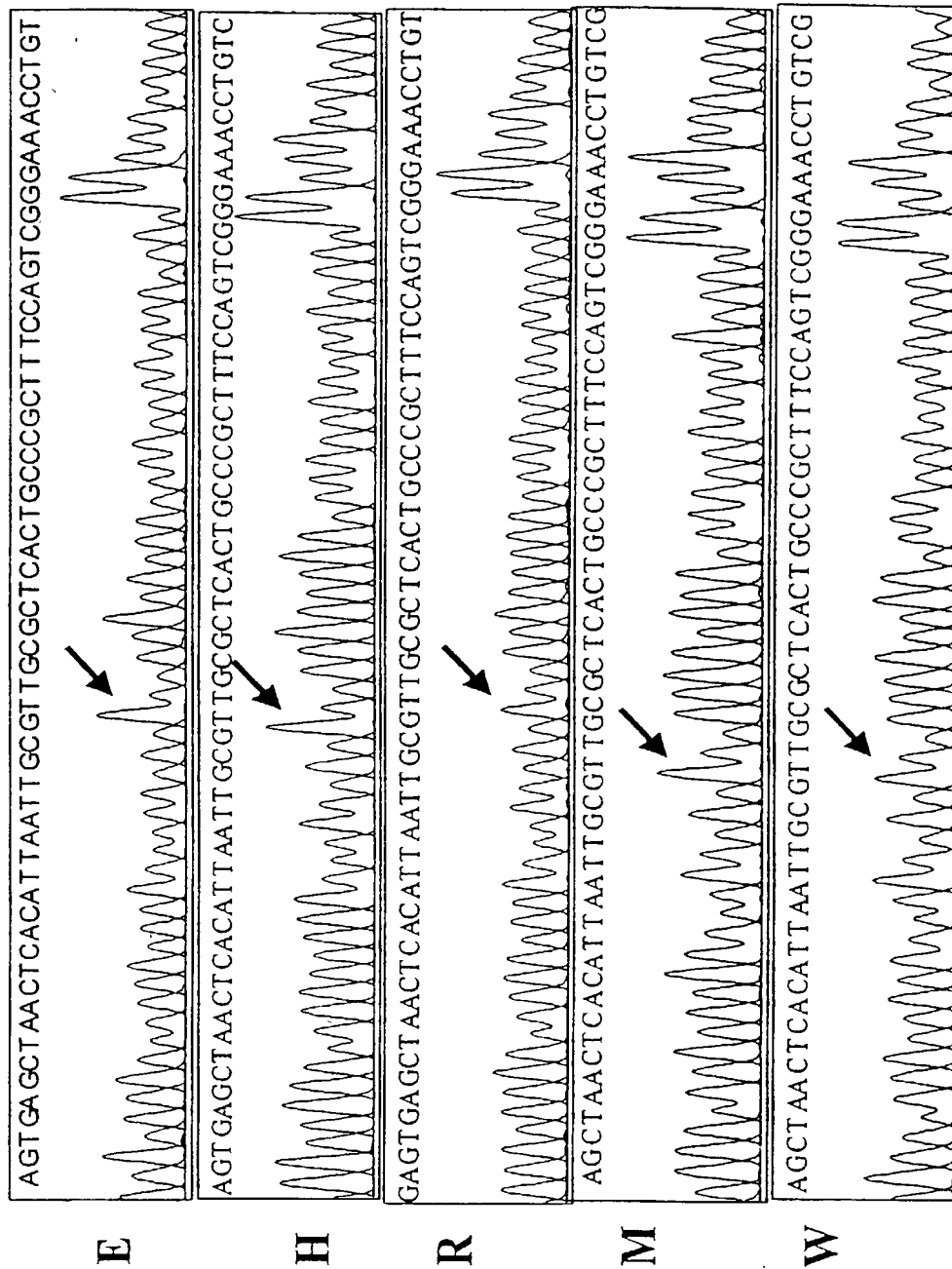


Fig. 13

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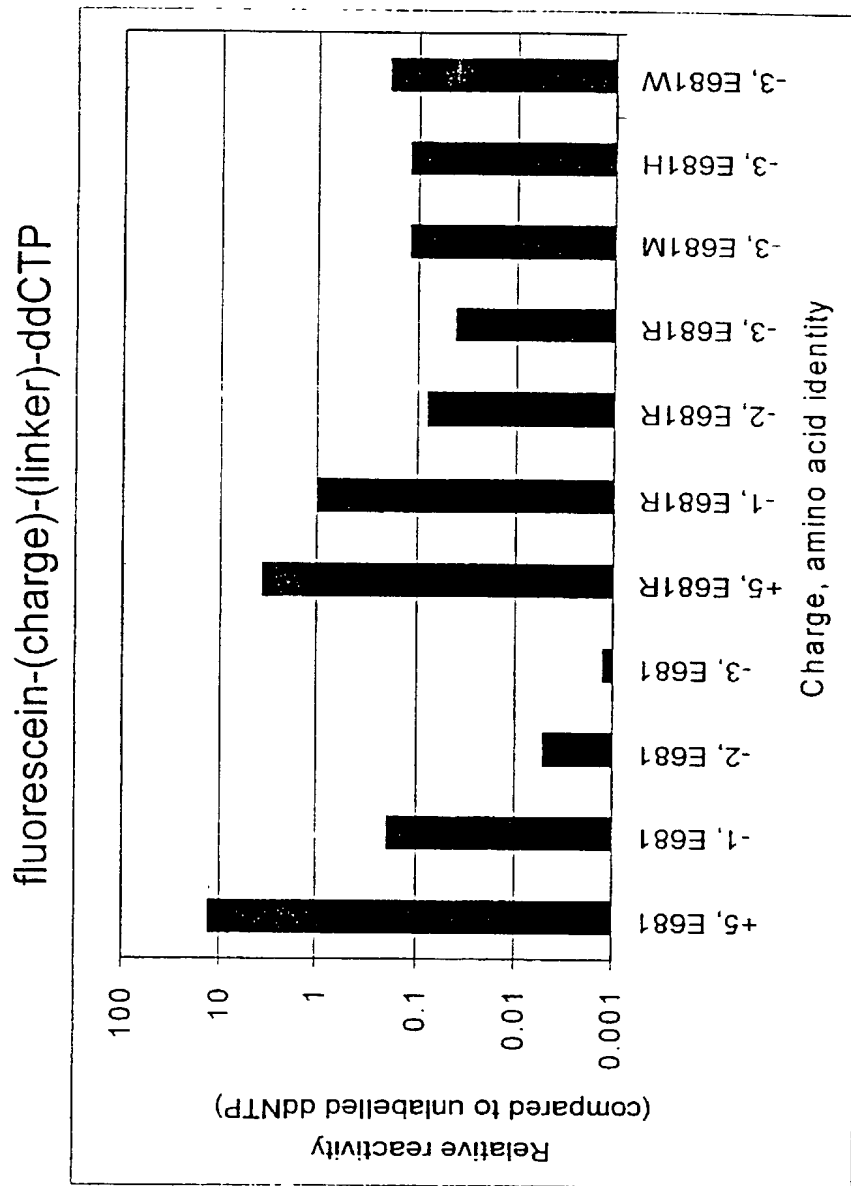


Fig. 14

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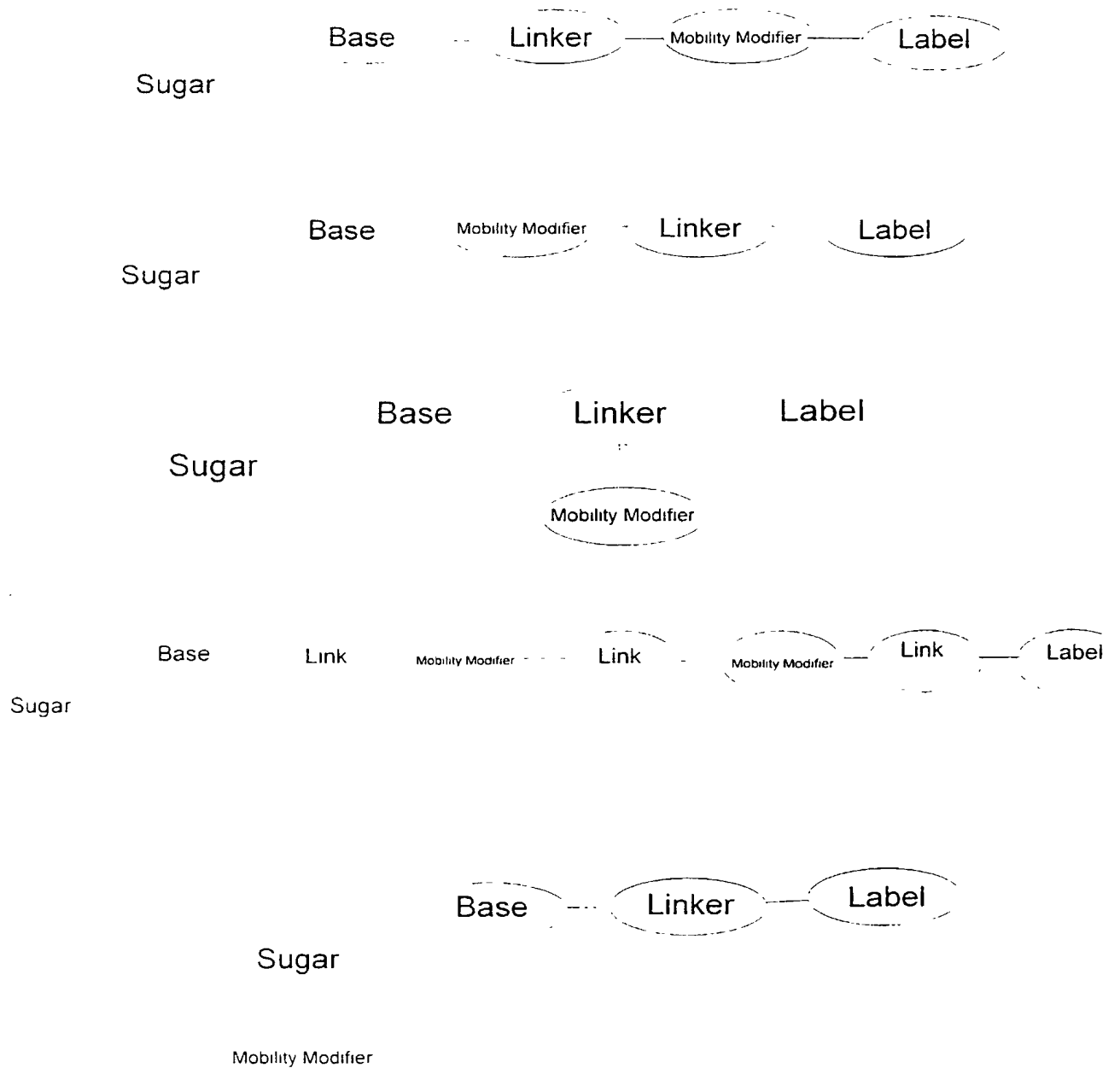


Fig. 15

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Fig. 16a

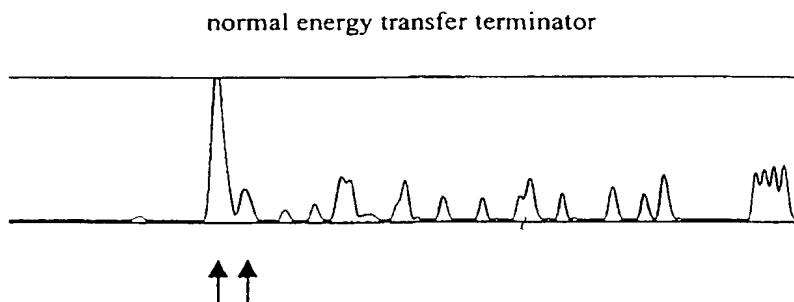
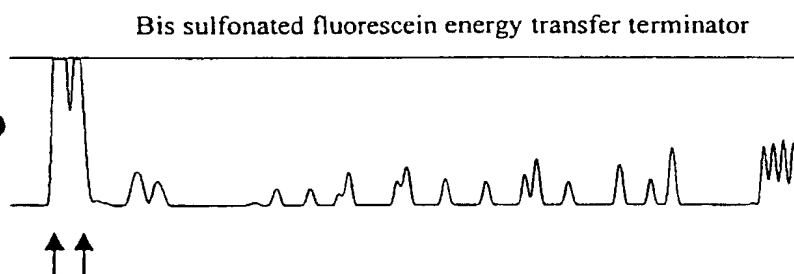


Fig. 16b

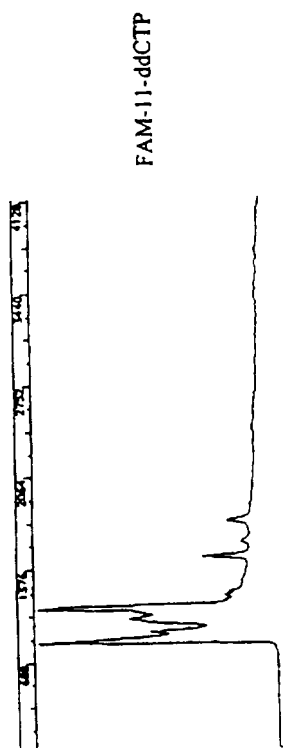


Faster

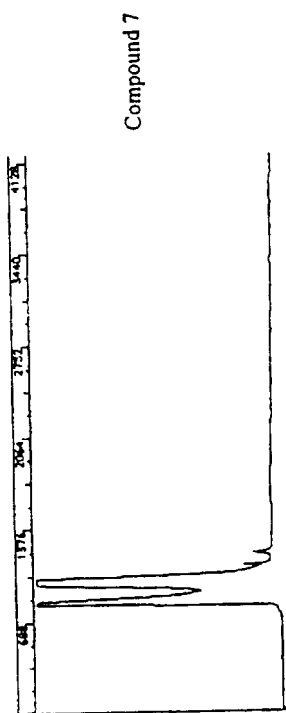
Slower

Comparison of Regular v. Bis-sulfonated Fluorescein ET Terminators

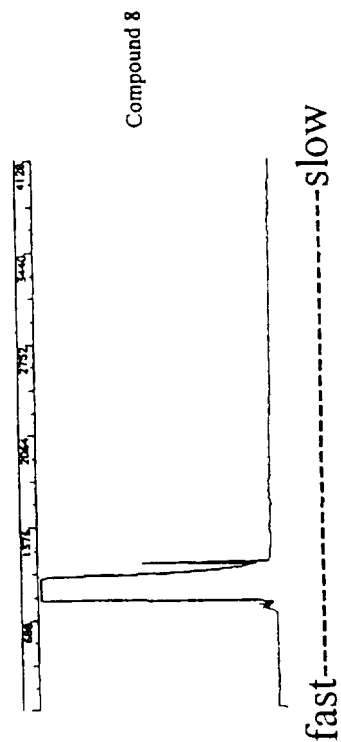
**Fig. 17a**



**Fig. 17b**



**Fig. 17c**



fast-----slow



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Net -3 charge terminator (10) reaction, directly loaded

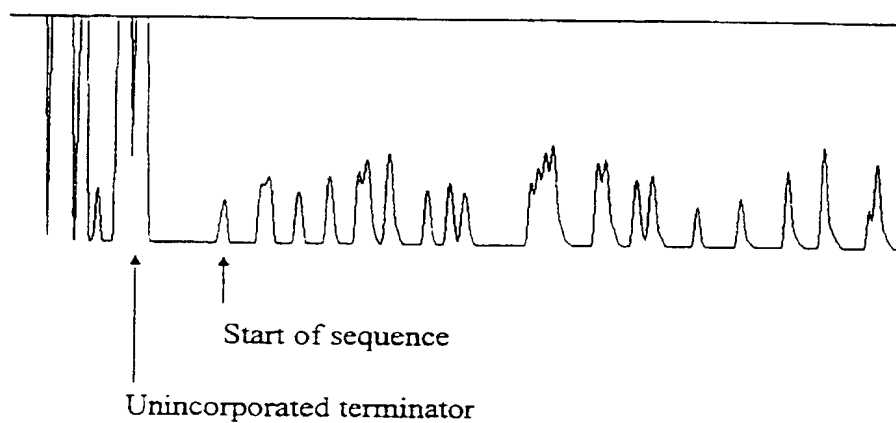


Fig. 18

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Fig. 19a

net +2 charge terminator,  
no phosphatase treatment

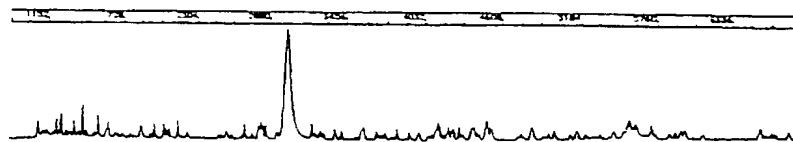
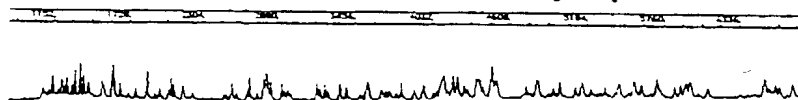


Fig. 19b

net +2 charge terminator,  
after phosphatase treatment



Docket No.: PB9944  
Application No.: 10/049,358  
Filing Date: to be assigned  
Group Art Unit: to be assigned  
Examiner: to be assigned  
Declaration Submitted After Initial Filing

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

***TAQ DNA Polymerases Having an Amino Acid Substitution at E681 and Homologs  
Thereof Exhibiting Improved Salt Tolerance***

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto.

OR

☒ was filed on **August 10, 2000** as United States Application No. or PCT International Application No. **PCT/US00/22150** and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_. (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional patent application(s) listed below:

**60/148,012**  
(Application Serial No.)

**August 10, 1999**  
(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application(s) designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, CFR Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

PCT/US00/22150  
(Application Serial No.)

August 10, 2000  
(Filing Date)

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Customer Number: 22840

Royal N. Ronning, Jr. (Reg. No. 32,529)

Stephen G. Ryan (Reg. No. 39,015)

Robert F. Chisholm (Reg. No. 39,939)

Send correspondence to: Amersham Biosciences Corp  
800 Centennial Avenue  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08855

Direct telephone calls to: (732) 457-8423

Direct facsimiles to: (732) 457-8463

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

1-00  
Full name of first inventor: Maria Davis

Inventor's signature: Maria Davis

Date: March 15, 2002

Post Office Address:

800 Centennial Avenue  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08855 US NJ

Citizenship:

United States

2-00  
Full name of second inventor: John Nelson

Inventor's signature: John Nelson

Date: March 19, 2002

Post Office Address:

800 Centennial Avenue  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08855 US NJ

Citizenship:

United States

3-00  
Full name of third inventor: Shiv Kumar

Inventor's signature: Shiv Kumar

Date: March 15, 2002

Post Office Address:

800 Centennial Avenue  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08855 US NJ

Citizenship:

United States

4-00  
Full name of fourth inventor: Patrick Finn

Inventor's signature: Patrick J. Finn

Date: 15 March 2002

Post Office Address: 800 Centennial Avenue NJ

Piscataway, New Jersey 08855 US

Citizenship: Great Britain

5-00  
Full name of fifth inventor: Satyam Nampalli

Inventor's signature: Satyam Nampalli

Date: 15 March 2002

Post Office Address: 800 Centennial Avenue NJ

Piscataway, New Jersey 08855 US

Citizenship: India

6-00  
Full name of sixth inventor: Parke Flick

Inventor's signature: Parke Flick

Date: 3/15/02

Post Office Address: 800 Centennial Avenue NJ

Piscataway, New Jersey 08855 US

Citizenship: United States

SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> Davis, Maria  
Nelson, John  
Kumar, Shiv  
Finn, Patrick J.  
Nampalli, Satyam  
Flick, Parke

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E681 and Homologs Thereof Exhibiting Improved Salt  
Tolerance

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10049358 051/02

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Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 MAY 2002

## SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> Davis, Maria  
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<120> TAQ DNA Polymerase Having an Amino Acid Substitution at  
E681 and Homologs Thereof Exhibiting Improved Salt  
Tolerance

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Val Asp Gly His His Leu Ala Tyr Arg Thr Phe His Ala Leu Lys Gly  
20 25 30

Leu Thr Thr Ser Arg Gly Glu Pro Val Gln Ala Val Tyr Gly Phe Ala  
35 40 45

Lys Ser Leu Leu Lys Ala Leu Lys Glu Asp Gly Asp Ala Val Ile Val  
50 55 60

Val Phe Asp Ala Lys Ala Pro Ser Phe Arg His Glu Ala Tyr Gly Gly  
65 70 75 80

Tyr Lys Ala Gly Arg Ala Pro Thr Pro Glu Asp Phe Pro Arg Gln Leu  
85 90 95

Ala Leu Ile Lys Glu Leu Val Asp Leu Leu Gly Leu Ala Arg Leu Glu  
100 105 110

Val Pro Gly Tyr Glu Ala Asp Asp Val Leu Ala Ser Leu Ala Lys Lys  
115 120 125





**Abstract**

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<210> 2
<211> 560
<212> PRT
<213> Thermus aquaticus
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<400> 2
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Leu Glu Ser Pro Lys Ala Leu Glu Glu Ala Pro Trp Pro Pro Pro Glu
      20           25           30

Gly Ala Phe Val Gly Phe Val Leu Ser Arg Lys Glu Pro Met Trp Ala
      35           40           45

Asp Leu Leu Ala Leu Ala Ala Arg Gly Gly Arg Val His Arg Ala
  50           55           60

Pro Glu Pro Tyr Lys Ala Leu Arg Asp Leu Lys Glu Ala Arg Gly Leu
  65           70           75           80

Leu Ala Lys Asp Leu Ser Val Leu Ala Leu Arg Glu Gly Leu Gly Leu
      85           90           95

Pro Pro Gly Asp Asp Pro Met Leu Leu Ala Tyr Leu Leu Asp Pro Ser
      100          105          110

Asn Thr Thr Pro Glu Gly Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr Gly Gly Glu Trp Thr
      115          120          125

Glu Glu Ala Gly Glu Arg Ala Ala Leu Ser Glu Arg Leu Phe Ala Asn
      130          135          140

Leu Trp Gly Arg Leu Glu Gly Glu Glu Arg Leu Leu Trp Leu Tyr Arg

```

[illegible]

[illegible]

450				455				460							
Arg 465	Val	Lys	Ser	Val	Glu 470	Ala	Ala	Glu	Arg	Met 475	Ala	Phe	Asn	Met	Pro 480
Val	Gln	Gly	Thr	Ala 485	Ala	Asp	Leu	Met	Lys 490	Leu	Ala	Met	Val	Lys 495	Leu
Phe	Pro	Arg	Leu 500	Glu	Glu	Met	Gly	Ala 505	Arg	Met	Leu	Leu	Gln 510	Val	His
Asp	Glu	Leu 515	Val	Leu	Glu	Ala	Pro 520	Lys	Glu	Arg	Ala	Glu 525	Ala	Val	Ala
Arg 530	Leu	Ala	Lys	Glu	Val	Met 535	Glu	Gly	Val	Tyr	Pro 540	Leu	Ala	Val	Pro
Leu 545	Glu	Val	Glu	Val	Gly 550	Ile	Gly	Glu	Asp	Trp 555	Leu	Ser	Ala	Lys	Glu 560

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<210> 3
<211> 830
<212> PRT
<213> Thermus aquaticus
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Leu Tyr Gln Leu Leu Ser Asp Arg Ile His Val Leu His Pro Glu Gly  
 145 150 155 160  
 Tyr Leu Ile Thr Pro Ala Trp Leu Trp Glu Lys Tyr Gly Leu Arg Pro  
 165 170 175  
 Asp Gln Trp Ala Asp Tyr Arg Ala Leu Thr Gly Asp Glu Ser Asp Asn  
 180 185 190  
 Leu Pro Gly Val Lys Gly Ile Gly Glu Lys Thr Ala Arg Lys Leu Leu  
 195 200 205  
 Glu Glu Trp Gly Ser Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Lys Asn Leu Asp Arg Leu  
 210 215 220  
 Lys Pro Ala Ile Arg Glu Lys Ile Leu Ala His Met Asp Asp Leu Lys  
 225 230 235 240  
 Leu Ser Trp Asp Leu Ala Lys Val Arg Thr Asp Leu Pro Leu Glu Val  
 245 250 255  
 Asp Phe Ala Lys Arg Arg Glu Pro Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu Arg Ala Phe  
 260 265 270  
 Leu Glu Arg Leu Glu Phe Gly Ser Leu Leu His Glu Phe Gly Leu Leu  
 275 280 285  
 Glu Ser Pro Lys Ala Leu Glu Glu Ala Pro Trp Pro Pro Pro Glu Gly  
 290 295 300  
 Ala Phe Val Gly Phe Val Leu Ser Arg Lys Glu Pro Met Trp Ala Asp  
 305 310 315 320  
 Leu Leu Ala Leu Ala Ala Ala Arg Gly Gly Arg Val His Arg Ala Pro  
 325 330 335  
 Tyr Lys Ala Leu Arg Asp Leu Lys Glu Ala Arg Gly Leu Leu Ala Lys  
 340 345 350  
 Asp Leu Ser Val Leu Ala Leu Arg Glu Gly Leu Gly Leu Pro Pro Gly  
 355 360 365  
 Asp Asp Pro Met Leu Leu Ala Tyr Leu Leu Asp Pro Ser Asn Thr Thr  
 370 375 380  
 Pro Glu Gly Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr Gly Gly Glu Trp Thr Glu Glu Ala  
 385 390 395 400  
 Gly Glu Arg Ala Ala Leu Ser Glu Arg Leu Phe Ala Asn Leu Trp Gly  
 405 410 415  
 Arg Leu Glu Gly Glu Glu Arg Leu Leu Trp Leu Tyr Arg Glu Val Glu  
 420 425 430  
 Arg Pro Leu Ser Ala Val Leu Ala His Met Glu Ala Thr Gly Val Arg  
 435 440 445

Leu Asp Val Ala Tyr Leu Arg Ala Leu Ser Leu Glu Val Ala Glu Glu  
 450 455 460  
 Ile Ala Arg Leu Glu Ala Glu Val Phe Arg Leu Ala Gly His Pro Phe  
 465 470 475 480  
 Asn Leu Asn Ser Arg Asp Gln Leu Glu Arg Val Leu Phe Asp Glu Leu  
 485 490 495  
 Gly Leu Pro Ala Ile Gly Lys Thr Glu Lys Thr Gly Lys Arg Ser Thr  
 500 505 510  
 Ser Ala Ala Val Leu Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Ala His Pro Ile Val Glu  
 515 520 525  
 Lys Ile Leu Gln Tyr Arg Glu Leu Thr Lys Leu Lys Ser Thr Tyr Ile  
 530 535 540  
 Asp Pro Leu Pro Asp Leu Ile His Pro Arg Thr Gly Arg Leu His Thr  
 545 550 555 560  
 Arg Phe Asn Gln Thr Ala Thr Ala Thr Gly Arg Leu Ser Ser Ser Asp  
 565 570 575  
 Pro Asn Leu Gln Asn Ile Pro Val Arg Thr Pro Leu Gly Gln Arg Ile  
 580 585 590  
 Arg Arg Ala Phe Ile Ala Glu Glu Gly Trp Leu Leu Val Ala Leu Asp  
 595 600 605  
 Tyr Ser Gln Ile Glu Leu Arg Val Leu Ala His Leu Ser Gly Asp Glu  
 610 615 620  
 Asn Leu Ile Arg Val Phe Gln Glu Gly Arg Asp Ile His Thr Glu Thr  
 625 630 635 640  
 Ala Ser Trp Met Phe Gly Val Pro Arg Glu Ala Val Asp Pro Leu Met  
 645 650 655  
 Arg Arg Ala Ala Lys Thr Ile Asn Tyr Gly Val Leu Tyr Gly Met Ser  
 660 665 670  
 Ala His Arg Leu Ser Gln Arg Leu Ala Ile Pro Tyr Glu Glu Ala Gln  
 675 680 685  
 Ala Phe Ile Glu Arg Tyr Phe Gln Ser Phe Pro Lys Val Arg Ala Trp  
 690 695 700  
 Ile Glu Lys Thr Leu Glu Glu Gly Arg Arg Arg Gly Tyr Val Glu Thr  
 705 710 715 720  
 Leu Phe Gly Arg Arg Arg Tyr Val Pro Asp Leu Glu Ala Arg Val Lys  
 725 730 735  
 Ser Val Arg Glu Ala Ala Glu Arg Met Ala Phe Asn Met Pro Val Gln  
 740 745 750



Gly Thr Ala Ala Asp Leu Met Lys Leu Ala Met Val Lys Leu Phe Pro  
755 760 765

Arg Leu Glu Glu Met Gly Ala Arg Met Leu Leu Gln Val His Asp Glu  
770 775 780

Leu Val Leu Glu Ala Pro Lys Glu Arg Ala Glu Ala Val Ala Arg Leu  
785 790 795 800

Ala Lys Glu Val Met Glu Gly Val Tyr Pro Leu Ala Val Pro Leu Glu  
805 810 815

Val Glu Val Gly Ile Gly Glu Asp Trp Leu Ser Ala Lys Glu  
820 825 830